

CG 100-25530

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed in enclosed memorandum and sources have been concealed only when necessary.

The attached memorandum is classified confidential because disclosure of the information could destroy the effectiveness of [REDACTED] an informant of continuing value. b7D

[REDACTED]

b7C



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

100-25530

Chicago, Illinois

JUNE 20, 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on June 27, 1960, that Helen Sobell, wife of Morton Sobell, was the featured speaker at a Chicago Sobell Committee meeting held on June 25, 1960, at 1316 East Madison Park, Chicago, Illinois.

Sobell stated that she had arrived in Chicago on the morning of June 24, 1960, and that she had just visited Minneapolis, Cleveland, and Detroit. According to Sobell, since arriving in Chicago she had met with photographers and newsmen and one newsmen, Irving Kupcinet, a reporter for the "Chicago Sun-Times" had taken her to lunch. She said that Kupcinet, who has a television show called "At Random," promised to have her on this show soon.

Sobell said that she had also appeared for two minutes on Television Station WBBM, Channel 2, and answered a number of questions concerning her work on behalf of her husband, Morton Sobell, and their future plans if and when he is released.

Sobell had a few copies of the June 20, 1960, edition of the "New York Times" which contains an advertisement on behalf of Morton Sobell. She said that this advertisement was paid for by a group of sponsors who held a big church meeting in May, 1960, and that the Sobell Committee in Detroit is planning to have 20,000 copies of it printed. Also contained in the advertisement was a letter from Congressman William Meyer of Vermont which apparently was written sometime ago on behalf of Morton Sobell.

Sobell announced that a large three day meeting was to be held on November 19, 20, 21, 1960, in Washington, D. C. According to Sobell, among those attending this meeting will be members of the clergy and the professions from all over the United States, and it is hoped a large

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

group of Congressmen. Sobell said that appeals will be sent from the meeting to the White House and the Justice Department and that these appeals should make a big impression.

Sobell said that, if the appeals are not successful in getting amnesty for Morton Sobell, an appeal can be made on behalf of Morton in April, 1961, because he will have, as of then, served one-third of his sentence.

[REDACTED] b7D

Sobell stated that the law firm of attorney Frank Donner is representing Morton Sobell and that on June 27, 1960, she will be in Washington, D.C., and she will find out, at that time, whether or not they will be able to obtain the services of a prominent attorney there.

Morton Sobell

Morton Sobell was convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on March 29, 1951, of conspiracy to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. Sobell on April 5, 1951, was sentenced to serve thirty years imprisonment and is currently serving his sentence at the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia.

Attached is information concerning the Chicago Sobell Committee and the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHICAGO SOBELL COMMITTEE, aka., Chicago
Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell

A source on December 3, 1959, advised that the Chicago Sobell Committee, which is also known as Chicago Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, and was formerly known as Chicago Rosenberg-Sobell Committee and Chicago Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, is a small group of volunteers who do Sobell fund raising and programing in the Chicago area. The Chicago Committee, since its inception in 1952, has been an affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, which is also known as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell and was formerly known as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee and the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, with headquarters in New York.

Source said that the office of the Chicago Sobell Committee is currently located at 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois,

[REDACTED] DAVID
SOLTKER and SYLVIA LEVINSON appear to be the guiding forces behind
this committee.
[REDACTED]

b7D

Another source advised during October, 1959, that the Chicago Sobell Committee maintains a bank account at the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank, 111 South Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois, and that DAVID SOLTKER is listed in this bank account as the Secretary of the Chicago Sobell Committee.

The above information cannot be made public except in the usual proceedings following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

The files of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities House of Representatives, as reviewed in August, 1943, reflected that the names of DAVID and GERTRUDE SOLTKER appear as signers on the Communist Party election petition submitted to the State of Illinois in 1940.

Another source in 1943 advised that GERTRUDE SOLTKER, as of 1943, was a member of the Communist Party.

Another source furnished information in 1949 which indicates that at that time SYLVIA LEVINSON was Vice Chairman of the Congress of American Women.

The Communist Party and the Congress of American Women have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order #10450.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell', the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October, 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case'"

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

THE ABOVE MEMORANDUM IS LOANED
TO YOU BY THE BUREAU OF
INVESTIGATION. IT IS NOT
ITS CONTENTS TO BE DISSEMINATED
OUTSIDE THE AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE DESCRIPTION

NEW YORK FILE

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBBELL
COMMITTEE

FILE NO. 100-107111

VOLUME NO. 95

SERIALS 4086

THRU

4105

File No: 100-107111Re: ROSENBERG/SOBELL CommitteeDate: 1/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
4086	7-1-60	NY LETTER TO NH	3	0		
		RE: VICTOR RABINOWITZ				SEE NYFILE: 100-109849
4087	7-5-60	SA MEMO TO SAC N.Y.	2	0		
4088	7-7-60	NY AIRTEL TO HQ	2	0		
		RE: MORNING FREEMAN				
4089	7-11-60	SA MEMO TO FILE	1	1		
4090	7-11-60	SA MEMO TO SAC N.Y.	2	0		SEE NYFILE: 100-109849
		RE: MORNING FREEMAN				
4091	7-12-60	SA MEMO TO SAC N.Y.	1	1		
4092	7-12-60	HQ LETTER TO LA	1	1		
4093	7-13-60	NY LETTER TO CG	4	0		SEE NYFILE: 100-109849
4094	7-13-60	NY LETTER TO LA	5	0		SEE NYFILE: 100-109849
4095	7-15-60	NY LETTER TO CG	3	0		
4096	7-15-60	NY LETTER TO LA	6	0		SEE NYFILE: 100-109849
4097	7-18-60	SA MEMO TO SAC NY	2	3		

*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque, New York

File No: 100-107111

Re: ROSENBERG/SOBELL Committee

Date:

1/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
4097A	6-16-60	INFORMANT REPORT	6	0		SEE NY FILE: 100-109849
4097B	7-18-60	SA MEMO TO SAC LA RE: NATIONAL GUARDIAN READERS CLUB	2	0		SEE NY FILE: 100-109849
4098	7-19-60	SA MEMO TO SAC NH	3	2		
4098A	7-20-60	SA MEMO TO SAC LA	2	0		
4099	7-22-60	NY AIRTEL TO HQ	1	1		
4099	7-22-60	ENC. TO ABOVE	1	0		
4100	7-25-60	SA MEMO TO SAC CG	5	0		SEE NY FILE: 100-109849
4101	7-26-60	NY AIRTEL TO HQ	1	0		
* 4102	7-26-60	NY REPORT TO HQ	45	28		
4102A	7-26-60	SA MEMO TO SAC CG	2	2		
* 4103	7-26-60	LA REPORT TO HQ	39	16		
* 4103	7-26-60	LA REPORT TO HQ	39	16		DUP 16

*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque, New York

VOLUME

95

REVIEWED BY

supp (Co) / new

File No: 100-107111

Re: ROSENBERG/SOKELL Committee

Date: 11/18
(month/year)

[illegible]

*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque, New York

FD-302a

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 100-389833

See also Nos.

100-389833

100-389833

100-389833

100-389833

100-389833

100-389833

100-389833

100-389833

10-2-1
CLASSIFICATION NO.

105-111

Volume Number

95

Serials

4026

4105

b7c



100-389833

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4086 DATE 7.1.60

CONSISTING OF 3 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2040.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4088 DATE 7-7-60

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2040.

RAE, NEW YORK (100-21) (41)

7/11/60

SA [REDACTED]

b7c

MORNING FREIHEIT
IS - C

The "Morning Freiheit" of June 19, 1960, on page 5, columns 1-5, reflected an article by S. D. LEVINE, entitled: "When The World Cried Out For the Rosenbergs".

The article opens with: "This Sunday, June 19th, will be seven years since the two innocent martyrs, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were executed." Levine repeats part of the history of the case. He recites the witnesses and evidence used against them in the trial. "The Trial was held at a time when McCarthy-hysteria had reached its pinnacle and while the Korean War was on. Only at such a time of hysteria and witch-hunting could these two martyrs have been convicted on the basis of such insignificant, often fantastic proof.".... "This barbaric sentence against the Rosenbergs caused a tremendous storm in the United States and throughout the world. In the United States a national committee was organized to demand justice for the innocent victims. Tremendous mass demonstrations were held in dozens of cities and towns across the land. Tens of thousands of people participated in the picket lines in front of the White House in Washington. Broad strata of the people voiced their anger and displeasure over the gruesome sentence."

"But the leading circles in Washington did not listen to the protests. Appeals to the Supreme Court and to President Eisenhower were of no avail..." Levine quotes from some of the Rosenberg letters, and concludes:

"The Rosenbergs went to their death courageously with a profound realization of their martyrdom and with a sacred belief in a better future for humanity".

The above was translated from the Yiddish by
[REDACTED] INTERPRETER.

- b7c
- ①-New York (100-107111) (SOBELL COMMITTEE) (41)
 - 1-New York [REDACTED]
 - 1-New York (100-21) (41)

NJP:paf
(3)

b7c

100-107111-4089

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 11 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

SAC, NEW YORK (100-21) (41)

7/12/60

SA [REDACTED] b7C

MORNING FREIHEIT
IS - C

The following report is from the "Morning Freiheit" of June 21, 1960, on page 2, columns 4-5:

**Seventh Anniversary Of The Death Of The
Rosenbergs Marked At Their Graves**

An impressive and very moving memorial gathering was held on Sunday afternoon at the graves of martyrs Ethel and Julius Rosenberg on the seventh anniversary of their death.

Among the friends and followers present was Julius' mother, who never took her eyes off the two modest tomb-stones with the traditional Hebrew inscriptions: Yonah Rosenberg and Ethel Rosenberg.

Ben Ratner, a friend of the family, opened the ceremony with the prayer for the dead and made a short talk about the Rosenbergs. A close friend of Ethel and Julius spoke about them and about the great idealism which filled their short lives. She also read from John Wexley's book describing a few moving moments in the last days of their courageous and honorable lives and about how, to the last minute, they were certain that, finally, it would be realized that they are innocent.

Edith Segal read a few of her powerful poems concerning the Rosenberg tragedy. The poems made a profound impression on the people.

The assemblage placed flowers on the graves and, with tears in their eyes and deeply moved, left the cemetery.

The above was translated from the Yiddish by [REDACTED]

INTERPRETER. b7C

- ①-New York (100-107111) (41)
- 1-New York [REDACTED] b7C
- 1-New York [REDACTED]
- 1-New York (100-21) (41)

NJP:par
(4)

100-107111-409

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
41 JUL 12 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

b7C [REDACTED] 47

SAC, Los Angeles (100-41648)

July 12, 1960

Director, FBI (100-387835)

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Re New York airtel 7/7/60 concerning
captioned matter.

The Los Angeles Office should take
immediate steps to determine the exact

Los Angeles should incorporate whatever
data developed in memorandum form suitable for
dissemination, six copies being furnished the
Bureau. Los Angeles should incorporate in its
memorandum pertinent data set out in reairtel. 67D

2 - Los Angeles

① - New York (100-107111)

FM 4 g
3776A.

100-107111-4092

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 13 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

67C
67D

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4095 DATE 7-15-60

CONSISTING OF 3 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2040.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-133090) (414) Date: 7/18/60

FROM : SA [REDACTED] 67C

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR A SANE NUCLEAR POLICY
IS-C

Identity of Source: [REDACTED] who
has furnished reliable info
in past (conceal) 67D

Description of info: Info re National Committee
for SANE Nuclear Policy
Rally, 5/19/60.

Date Received: 5/26/60

Received by: SA [REDACTED] 67C

Original located: [REDACTED] 67D

A copy of informant's report follows:

- 1 - New York [REDACTED] 67D
- 1 - New York (97-5) (WAR RESISTORS LEAGUE) (31)
- 1 - New York (100-12063) (CONTEMPORARY ISSUES) ()
- 1 - New York (100-7546) (FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION) (41)
- 1 - New York (100-26603) (CP, USA, NY STATE) (421)
- 1 - New York (100-23682) (WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR
PEACE AND FREEDOM) (414)
- 1 - New York (97-169) (PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS, INC.) (415)
- 1 - New York (100-137309) (WORKERS WORLD) ()
- 1 - New York [REDACTED]
- 1 - New York [REDACTED] } 67C
- 1 - New York [REDACTED] } 67D
- 1 - New York (100-141495) (CIVIL DEFENSE PROTEST COMMITTEE) ()
- ① - New York (100-107111) (COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL) (41)
- 1 - New York (100-140528 Sub A) (COMINFIL GREATER NY COMMITTEE)
(41)
- 1 - New York (100-133090) (414)

KJH:tmb
(18)

100-107111-4097

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 18 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

67C [REDACTED]

NY 100-133090

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1960

REPORT ON THE MAD. SQ. GAR. RALLY FOR A SANE NUCLEAR POLICY.

The National & Greater N.Y. Com. for a Sane Nuclear Policy held a Rally at Mad. Sq. Gar. on Thurs. eve., May 19, 1960-8:30 P.M. 17,500 people attended.

Prior to the meeting many groups distributed papers & pamphlets outside of the Garden; among them were the following; War Resisters League, 5 Beekman St., N.Y. 38, N.Y., Cornucopia & co-sponsor Contemporary Issues (publications), 545 5th Ave., N.Y.C.; FCR (Fellowship of Reconciliation) Box # 271, Nyack; The N.Y.S. Communist Party, 23 W. 26th St., N.Y. C.; The 1960 Campaign for Disarmament Summer Caravan of Students sponsored by several groups including "Sane", FCR, ADA, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, etal. Other groups distributing literature were The Community Church, 35th St. & Park Ave.

[REDACTED]

The Daily Worker was sold and another publication gave sample copies of Workers World, 46 W. 21st St., N.Y.C.; I.F. Stone's Weekly; et al. A souvenir Journal was published for the occasion by Sane.

[REDACTED]

Some of the members of the [REDACTED]
observed at the Rally were [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NY 100-133090

[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] were among the
5,000 (reported) people who marched with other members of
Sane & other organizations to the U.N. Plaza after the
Rally was over. This March was originally scheduled for
Sat., May 21st but they decided to March after the Rally instead.

b7D

FILE #

100-107111

SUBJECT

ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL

4098

DATE

7.19.60

CONSISTING OF

3

PAGES OF WHICH

PAGE 3

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

1 [REDACTED]
1
1
1
1
1
1
1

} b7D
67C

1 - 100-14203 (Sobell Committee)
1 - New York (Sobell Committee) (RM)
LSG:ask
(29)

67C

67D

[REDACTED] Original information is located [REDACTED]
The informant's original report is attached to the copy of
this memorandum designated for his sub file, and is as follows:

"National Guardian Readers Club
Picnic and Bazaar.
Held at the home of Alice Wida
35 Robert St. Bridgeport, Conn.
June 19, 1960 -- 3 P.M.

(written 6-19, 1960)

"Purpose of picnic and bazaar was to raise money for
the Sobell Committee.

"There weren't any speakers, announcements, etc. just
a social gathering.

[REDACTED] 67D

"Names of people attending:

[REDACTED]

} 67D

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4098A DATE 7.20.60

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2040.

7/22/60

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL
IS-3
(OO: NY)

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are five copies of a letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination purposes. A copy of this airtel and letterhead memorandum is being sent to the Los Angeles Office for information purposes.

~~The letterhead memorandum has been classified, "Confidential", in order to protect the identity of the source used therein.~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) *[initials]*
DATE *[initials]*

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.~~

- 3 - Bureau (100-387835) (Enclosure)
1 - Los Angeles
1 - NY
1 - NY 100-107111 (41)

JAH:eml
(7) *[initials]*

1 - Supervisor #41

CLASSIFIED BY *4913 AD/TEK 2-4-18*
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-107111-4099-0

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4099 DATE 7.22.60
(ENC. TO AIRTEL)

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

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under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2040.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4101 DATE 7.26.60

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2040.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4102 DATE 7-26-60

CONSISTING OF 45 PAGES OF WHICH

4, 5, 11, 12, 19 THRU 23, + 31 THRU 36 are

exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [REDACTED]

Also, (b)(7)(D) | Information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 7/26/60	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/20-7/20/60
TITLE OF CASE COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED] b7C	TYPED BY mez
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950	

SYNOPSIS:

REFERENCE:

Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 1/28/60,
at NY.

- P* -

ADMINISTRATIVE

The information furnished by NY T-12 concerning the bank account of captioned organization as maintained at the Chemical Bank New York Trust Company in NY, was furnished on a confidential basis. The officer to be subpoenaed in the event this information is to be utilized is [REDACTED] Chemical Bank New York Trust Company, Fifth Avenue and 20th Street in NYC. b7D

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
COPIES MADE: 5 - Bureau (100-387835)(RM) 1 - G-2 First Army, NYC (RM) 1 - 2nd OSI District, USAF, NYC (RM) 1 - ONI 3rd Naval District, NYC (RM) 1 - Atlanta (100-4953)(Info)(RM)		100-	107111-	4102
<u>COPIES CONTINUED</u> (2) - New York (100-107111)				

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

NY 100-107111

COPIES CONTINUED

1 - Albany (100-13260)(Info)(RM)
1 - Baltimore (100-15241)(Info)(RM)
1 - Boston (100-27290)(Info)(RM)
1 - Buffalo (100-11534)(Info)(RM)
1 - Chicago (100-25530)(Info)(RM)
1 - Cincinnati (100-10090)(Info)(RM)
1 - Cleveland (100-20243)(Info)(RM)
1 - Denver (100-) (Info)(RM)
1 - Detroit (100-20938)(Info)(RM)
1 - Los Angeles (100-41648)(Info)(RM)
1 - Louisville (100-4350)(Info)(RM)
1 - Miami (100-12292)(Info)(RM)
1 - Milwaukee (100-11982)(Info)(RM)
1 - Minneapolis (100-8894)(Info)(RM)
1 - Newark (100-35202)(Info)(RM)
1 - New Haven (100-14203)(Info)(RM)
1 - Philadelphia (100-37667)(Info)(RM)
1 - Phoenix (100-4333)(Info)(RM)
1 - Portland (100-9004)(Info)(RM)
1 - Salt Lake City (100-9029)(Info)(RM)
1 - San Diego (100-9380)(Info)(RM)
1 - San Francisco (100-35117)(Info)(RM)
1 - Seattle (100-22197)(Info)(RM)
1 - St. Louis (100-11726)(Info)(RM)
1 - Washington Field (100-25474)(Info)(RM)

COVER PAGE

NY 100-107111

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONTINUED)

This report is classified "~~Confidential~~" since the information contained therein was obtained from informants of continuing value and could reasonably prevent their future effectiveness, especially information furnished by NY T-1, NY T-2, NY T-7, NY T-12 and NY T-13.

Copies of this report have been furnished to interested local intelligence agencies.

Copies of this report are being furnished for information purposes to all offices where active adjuncts or affiliates of the CSJMS have been revealed to exist either through publicity of the CSJMS or by confidential informants.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

COVER PAGE

NY 100-107111

INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

NY 100-107111-1B1013
-1B1044
-1B1010
-1B1023
-1B1072
-1B1003
-1B1032
-1B1058
-1B1014

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b1

NY 1-3

67D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

67D

67D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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67D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

67D

COVER PAGE

NY 100-107111

INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

NY T-6
NY 1219-S

Used to characterize AARON KATZ

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b1

67D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Chemical Bank,
NY Trust Co., NYC
(Requested)

100-107111-3917
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NY 100-107111

INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

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Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed, and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow and report the activities of captioned organization as revealed through confidential informants and/or publicity releases.

COVER PAGE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

Copy to: 1 - G-2 First Army, NYC (RM)
1 - 2nd OSI District, USAF, NYC (RM)
1 - ONI 3rd Naval District, NYC (RM)

Report of: [REDACTED] b7C Office: New York
Date: 7/26/60

File Number: New York 100-107111 Bureau 100-387835

Title: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Synopsis: The National Headquarters of the CSJMS are at Room D, 940 Broadway, NYC, and this room is also utilized as headquarters for the NYCSJMS. Members of the National Staff are: TED JACOBS, HELEN SOBELL, ROSE SOBELL, LEAH SCHNEIDER, BELLA HALEBSKY, FRANK MILLER, IRMA "WIDGE" NEWMAN and AARON KATZ. Members of the NY Committee are: BEN RATNER, EVELYN HARAP, MARGARET BLAU, MURIEL GOLDRING and JENNIE RATNER. The purpose of the Committee is to secure the release of MORTON SOBELL, codefendant of the ROSENBERGS, from prison by obtaining a new trial or by securing executive clemency. Informant has advised that following SOBELL's release the Committee would attempt to discredit the conviction and sentencing of the ROSENBERGS. u

- P* -

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICE
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) *Forwarded/Class*
DATE *3/22/88* *As/pt*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

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Classified by *4913* *AP/das 7/17/70*
Exempt from GDS, *2*
Date of Declassification Indefinite

DETAILS:

A. CHARACTERIZATIONS

Committee To Secure Justice For Morton Sobell

"Following the execution of atomic spies ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon MORTON SOBELL,' the ROSENBERGS' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg case - a Communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October, 1953, and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case'" u

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.) u

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee. u

The 19⁵⁴ 1954-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York. u

JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG and MORTON SOBELL were convicted in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, on March 29, 1951, on a charge of Conspiracy to

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commit Espionage on behalf of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). The ROSENBERGS were sentenced to death on April 5, 1951, and MORTON SOBELL was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment on the same date. JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG were legally executed at Sing Sing Prison, Ossining, New York, on June 19, 1953. MORTON SOBELL is currently serving his sentence at the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia.

NO
Sw P
The Communist Party, United States of America (CP, USA), and the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, the New York Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell and the Sobell Committee will be referred to by the initials CSJMS, NYCSJMS and SC where appropriate in this report.

B. PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

On July 18, 1960, NY T-1 advised that the CSJMS was an organization engaged in activities to secure the release of MORTON SOBELL from prison. NY T-1 advised that MORTON SOBELL had been convicted of Conspiracy to commit Espionage with his codefendants JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG and had been sentenced to serve 30 years in prison. The informant said that the Committee had been originally formed approximately 10 years previously to secure the freedom of all three persons, but that a few years later it was decided that concentration of the efforts of the Committee should be on MORTON SOBELL, who was still living, and that after he was freed, the work of the Committee would concentrate on vindicating ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG.

Will

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[REDACTED] identified [REDACTED] HELEN
GUREWITZ (HELEN SOBELL, Mrs. MORTON SOBELL) as
a member of the Education and Literature Com-
mittee of the CP in Washington, D. C. as of
February 1, 1944. u

C [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] St. Anns Avenue, Bronx, New York, advised
during 1950 that the SOBELL family had resided
at this address from about July 1931 to
December, 1940.

[REDACTED] u 67D
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] LEAH SCHNEIDER had been an active member of
the CP [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] u 67D

NY T-5 advised [REDACTED] that
IRMA (WIDGE) NEWMAN was a member of the American
Youth for Democracy (AYD) while attending New
York University in New York City. u 67D

The AYD has been designated by the Attorney
General of the United States pursuant to
Executive Order 10450. u
[REDACTED] 67D

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NY T-6 advised on April 27, 1944, that AARON KATZ was a member of the CP for six years and had been transferred into the Waterfront Section of the CP on December 23, 1943. According to NY T-6, KATZ in 1944 held CP membership book number 31250. u

E. STAFF OF NEW YORK COMMITTEE

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

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[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

NY T-8 advised [REDACTED] that
EVELYN MANN HARAP was a member of the Chelsea-
Lincoln Square Section of the CP.

[REDACTED]

u 67D

NY T-9 advised [REDACTED] that
MARGARET KANTER BLAU was the Organizational
Secretary of the Fifth North Section of the
Upper West Side Region of the New York State
CP at one period of time between 1948 and 1950. u 67D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] identified
LOUIS ZEMER as an active
CP sympathizer. u 67D

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15

[REDACTED]

NY T-11 advised on January 19, 1959, that PEARL CHERTOV was at that time a member of the Philadelphia Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (re Socialist Workers Party see above). u

P TIES BETWEEN NATIONAL AND
NEW YORK COMMITTEES

[REDACTED]

G. FUNDS

[REDACTED]

b1

NY 100-107111

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

NY T-12 advised on the indicated dates that the bank balance of the "Sobell Committee" on the indicated dates were as follows: u

<u>Date of Balance</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Date Advised</u>
January 27, 1960	\$ 457.29	January 27, 1960
February 25, 1960	1,042.14	February 25, 1960
March 28, 1960	163.41	March 28, 1960
April 26, 1960	253.54	April 26, 1960
May 26, 1960	412.45	May 26, 1960
June 27, 1960	489.14	June 27, 1960

The information furnished by NY T-12 is not to be made public except in the usual proceedings following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum. u

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[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

NY T-13 advised during late January, 1960, that ROSE SOBELL discussed the activities of the Sobell Committees with CLARENCE and HELEN GUREWITZ in Washington, D.C. According to NY T-13, ROSE SOBELL said that "we" have been trying to reach Senators and Congressmen concerning the case, and she added that no one was willing to do anything other than be sympathetic. NY T-13 advised that ROSE SOBELL expressed the comment that there was a lack of activity in New York City and people did not want to do anything. U 671

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NY T-14 advised on October 10, 1953, that
CLARENCE and HELEN GUREWITZ were CP members as
of October 8, 1953. u

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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NY 100-107111

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NY T-15 advised on May 25, 1960, that a public meeting of the CSJMS was held on May 24, 1960, at the Community Church of New York, 40 East 35th Street, New York City, and that approximately 350 to 400 people attended. NY T-15 advised that the following agenda was followed: u

1. WILLIAM KUNSTLER, Professor of Law, New York Law School, gave a history of the ROSENBERG-SOBELL case. u

2. DWIGHT MACDONALD, an author, lectured on the fact that the sentence was excessive. u

3. CONRAD LYNN, an attorney, spoke on the injustice of the case and the fact that it was a violation of civil rights. u

4. HELEN SOBELL spoke on the innocence of her husband. u

5. NORMAN THOMAS made a plea for amnesty for all "political prisoners". u

6. Congressman RANDALL S. HARMON said that he felt SOBELL was incorrectly tried and sentenced. u

7. HOWARD RADEST, a minister, made a plea for funds to support the work of the Committee. u

NY T-15 advised that it was announced that \$960.00 was received. u

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NY T-16 and NY T-17 also furnished substantially the same information concerning this meeting held on May 24, 1960. *u*

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

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K. PUBLICITY

"The Worker" is an East Coast weekly Communist newspaper. u

A characterization of the "National Guardian" and "Jewish Currents" may be found in the Appendix section hereto. u

On page 14, column 1, of the February 7, 1960, issue of "The Worker" is a news article entitled, "15 Israel Notables Urge Freedom For Sobell", which reports that a group of citizens of Israel had sent an appeal to the President of the United States urging freedom for MORTON SOBELL. u

On page 21 of the March, 1960, issue of "Jewish Currents" is an article which reports that 15 prominent Israeli citizens had sent a letter to the President of the United States urging clemency for SOBELL. u

On page 11, column 2, of the April 3, 1960, issue of "The Worker" is a news article entitled, "An Innocent Man Still Jailed After 10 Years", which article quotes at length a letter by Mrs. MORTON SOBELL to a newspaper in which she states that the USSR did not need to employ her husband as an espionage agent and that her husband was a victim of perjury and hysteria. u

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On page 22 of the May 16, 1960, Issue of the "National Guardian" is a news story entitled, "May 24 in New York - Panel to Discuss the Sobell Case", which story reports a planned meeting to be held May 24, 1960, at the Community Church of New York City to discuss the SOBELL case. u

On page 10 of the May 23, 1960, issue of the "National Guardian" is a news story entitled, "New York Rally May 24-3 Congressmen Ask Clemency for Sobell", which reports that a meeting in behalf of SOBELL would be held May 24, 1960, in New York City, and that support for SOBELL was promised by Representatives RANDALL S. HARMON (Democrat-Indiana), WILLIAM H. MEYER (Democrat-Vermont) and JOHN ELATNICK (Democrat-Minnesota). u

On page 10 of the June 6, 1960, issue of the "National Guardian" is a box announcement entitled, "Los Angeles", which reports a big meeting to be held June 17, 1960, in Los Angeles, California, under the auspices of the Los Angeles Sobell Committee. u

Advertisements for or news articles mentioning sympathetically the work of the Sobell Committee or Morton Sobell appeared in the following issues of the "National Guardian": u

page 11 of the January 18, 1960 issue,
pages 2 and 9 of the January 25, 1960 issue,
page 11 of the February 1, 1960 issue,
pages 3 and 11 of the March 7, 1960 issue,
page 11 of the March 21, 1960 issue,
page 3 of the April 11, 1960 issue, and
page 3 of the May 23, 1960 issue.

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[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] b1
NY T-18 made available [REDACTED] b7D
a 14 page release of the CSJMS known as "A report to
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States,
for the period January 1, 1959, to January 1, 1960".
This release, which contains quotes from prominent indi-
viduals, the clergy, may be quoted in part as follows: u

"Summary of Reasons for Executive Action

"The many people who have been appealing in
Morton Sobell's behalf have given varied reasons for
their actions. They include the following facts:

"1. The trial was held in the midst of the
tension of the Korean War. Not only did it take place
when McCarthyism was at its height, but one of the
prosecutors was Roy Cohn, who rose to become McCarthy's
aid partly as a result of the notoriety he received in
this trial.

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"2. The United States Supreme Court has never reviewed the case or passed upon the merits of the trial below. u
1

"3. Morton Sobell was not accused of atomic espionage.

"4. Judge Jerome Frank of the U. S. Court of Appeals stated that Morton Sobell should have had a new trial because his case should have been separated from the atomic espionage conspiracy accusations against the Rosenbergs.

"5. Only one witness gave any testimony connecting Morton Sobell with the conspiracy to commit espionage charge.

"6. This witness, Max Elitcher, was tainted. He admitted on the witness stand that he had been guilty of perjury on another matter, that the FBI knew about his perjury, and that he was testifying in hopes that he would not be prosecuted. He never was. His was accomplice testimony, generally regarded as weak or suspect.

"7. Elitcher's testimony was uncorroborated. It was replete with contradictions, inconsistencies, and implausibilities.

"8. The credibility of the witness against Sobell has never been examined by a higher court.

"9. No specific overt acts were listed against Sobell in the indictment.

"10. It was not claimed in the trial that Sobell ever gave or received any classified information.

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"11. The Appeals Court at one point alluded to the 'wholly reprehensible' conduct of the prosecution, and indicated that a new trial would have been justified had the defense objected in time. 4
1

"12. The kidnapping of Morton Sobell and his family from Mexico by the prosecution resulted in prejudicial stories in the press, and was used by the prosecution to prejudice the atmosphere at the trial.

"13. The hysteria of the time placed an undue burden on Morton Sobell and his attorneys. It was impossible for the attorneys to learn what Morton Sobell was accused of doing in order to prepare a defense. At the trial itself, the attorneys were faced with the choice of putting Morton Sobell on the stand in an inflamed atmosphere, or resting on his plea of innocence according to Constitutional guarantees. The fact that to this day prosecutor Roy Cohn holds that not taking the stand indicated Sobell's guilt is evidence of how the rightful use of Constitutional guarantees can be misinterpreted in moments of extreme tension.

"14. The 30-year sentence against Sobell is far out of proportion. Even persons accused of treason in wartime, acting on behalf of enemy powers, have been accorded far less severe sentences.

"15. The judge based his harsh sentencing policy on the premise that Russia obtained the atomic bomb because of espionage. Today scientists, even conceding some help through espionage, say this was a distorted and harmful illusion that prevented our country from having a true picture of Russia's scientific capabilities. Morton Sobell, although not even accused of atomic espionage, was victimized by the attitudes of the time. Today, the atmosphere has changed, yet he remains a prisoner of that era.

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"16. Law journals which have studied the case have indicated that Sobell did not receive justice. No law review has held that Sobell's sentence was just. 4

"17. Many authorities who have studied the case are convinced not only that the trial or sentence were unfair, but that Morton Sobell is an innocent man, as he maintains. 1

"18. When so many individuals and publications in our country raise basic questions about such an important case, these voices must be respected. The fact that such widespread doubt has been raised is in itself an urgent argument for Morton Sobell's release through Executive action. It is our tradition that where there are doubts, such questions must be resolved to the benefit of the individual, not the prosecution.

"19. Acting positively in this case would help to rectify wrongs done in the McCarthy era, and be a strong re-affirmation to the world of our country's dedication to the high ideas of justice, honor and compassion.

"Conclusion

"Mr. President, we urge with all our hearts that you give this case a personal examination. We urge that you please listen to the voice of educators, clergymen, writers, and editors representing the American people. Whatever arguments there may be regarding the innocence or guilt of Morton Sobell, the fairness or unfairness of the trial, there can be no moral justification for the 30-year sentence imposed upon him on the flimsy testimony presented. The only basis for such a sentence was the passion of the time in which he was tried. Certainly he and his family have suffered more than enough. Certainly our country has the greatness to

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correct an injustice rather than compound it by continuing to imprison a man who has been wronged. We appeal to you to end this ordeal by commuting Morton Sobell's sentence to the time he has served."

4

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

b1

APPENDIX

"JEWISH CURRENTS"

Formerly known as "Jewish Life"

"Jewish Life" for October, 1957, announced that after the October issue, and with the next issue to be published in January, 1958, the magazine was changing its name of "Jewish Currents," because of the claim to the name "Jewish Life" by the magazine "Orthodox Jewish Life."

The April, 1959, issue reported that "Jewish Currents" is published by Jewish Currents, Inc., Room 601, 22 East 17th Street, New York City.

Concerning "Jewish Life," the Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, dated January 2, 1957, and prepared by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, stated:

- "(1) Cited as a Communist front which first appeared in November, 1946, as a monthly published by the Morning Freiheit Association, publishers of the Yiddish Communist daily, 'Morning Freiheit'..... The first issue contained this announcement of policy: 'Jewish Life dedicates itself to strengthening the friendship of the Jewish people with the Soviet Union.....'

"(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p.93.)"

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NY 100-107111

APPENDIX

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian

- "1. Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p. 12)"

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~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York, New York

July 26, 1960

NY 100-107111

Title Committee To Secure Justice
 For Morton Sobell

Character Internal Security - C
 Internal Security Act of 1950

Reference Report of Special Agent
 [REDACTED] dated
 and captioned as above at
 New York. **b7C**

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

NY T-13 and NY T-18 are in a position to furnish reliable information.

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SAC, CHICAGO (100-25530)

July 26, 1960

SA [REDACTED] 67C

CHICAGO SOBELL COMMITTEE
IS - C

67D
On July 14, 1960, [REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, provided the writer with a handwritten report containing the results of the monitorship of the bank account of the captioned organization for the month of June, 1960. This account is maintained at the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank, 111 South Dearborn Street, Chicago.

The report is filed in [REDACTED] 67D

It should be noted that the information furnished by this informant is no longer in his possession.

The report as it relates to the captioned organization is set forth as follows:

- ① - New York (RM)
(100- COMM. TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL)
3 - Chicago
(1 - [REDACTED] 67D
(1 - 100-23177 PRAGA PRESS)

PHK:plf
(4)

100-107711-4102

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SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 27 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

#41

67C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 27 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

CHICAGO SOBELL COMMITTEE
June, 1960

Date	Checks	Deposits	Balance
1	1042		\$47475
1		10800	48433
6	5100		57233
8	1800		52133
9	11425	19925	50333
13	6900		63358
20	1500		51933
24	1697		50433
27	4000	16600	48736
			61336

Amount	Payee	Cleared Through
1042	Illinois Bell	1st National - Chgo
5100 Gen	General Services Administration	Federal Reserve
1800	Praga Press	Kaspar American - Chgo
6900	Cash	Us
11425	Comm. To Secure Justice - M. Sobell	Corn Exchange - New York
1500	Cash	Us
1697	Illinois Bell	1st National - Chgo
4000	Cash	Us

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4103 WITH ONE COPY DATE 7.26.60

CONSISTING OF 39 PAGES OF WHICH
D, E, F, H, I, 3, 6, 8, 10 THRU 20, 22, 23, + 24 are

exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [REDACTED]

Also, (b)(7)(D) | Information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

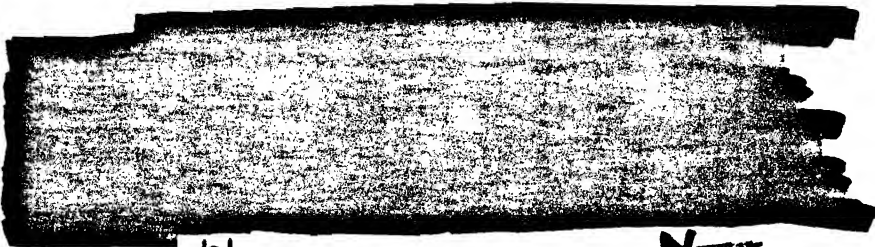
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE JUL 26 1960	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 6/24 - 7/18/60
TITLE OF CASE COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	CONFIDENTIAL 67C TYPED BY nlb
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C; INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950	

REFERENCE: Report of SA **[REDACTED]** dated 2/12/60, at
Los Angeles. **67C**

-P*-

ADMINISTRATIVE



61

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<div>SEE NEXT PAGE</div>	67C	<table border="1"><tr><td>SEARCHED</td><td>INDEXED</td></tr><tr><td>SERIALIZED</td><td>FILED</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">JUL 1 1960</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">FBI - NEW YORK</td></tr></table> 67C #41	SEARCHED	INDEXED	SERIALIZED	FILED	JUL 1 1960		FBI - NEW YORK	
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SERIALIZED	FILED									
JUL 1 1960										
FBI - NEW YORK										

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Exempt from GDS, Category **2**
Date of Declassification Indefinite

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- 1 - OSI, District 18, Maywood (REGISTERED)
- 2 - New York (100-107111)(REGISTERED)
- 1 - Chicago (Info.)(100-25530)(REGISTERED)
- 1 - San Diego (100-9380)(Info.)(REGISTERED)
- 1 - San Francisco (100-35117)(Info.)(REGISTERED)
- 2 - Los Angeles (100-41648)

LA 100-41648

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Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed, and "T" symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed. u

This report is classified confidential because data reported from LA T-1, LA T-3 through LA T-5, LA T-7 and LA T-11 through LA T-23 could reasonably result in identification of confidential informants of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof. u

-B-

COVER PAGE

LA 100-41648

LEADS

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. Will follow and report the activities of the Los Angeles Sobell Committee.

One copy of this report and one copy of the letterhead memorandum are being furnished to Chicago, San Diego and San Francisco for their information since it has been established there is a close alliance between the Los Angeles Sobell Committee and the Sobell Committees of those areas.

Copies have also been designated for FIO, Los Angeles; Region II, Pasadena; and OSI, District 18, Maywood, for the information of those agencies.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

Location

Orally to SA [REDACTED]

67C

[REDACTED]

61

[REDACTED]

61

Orally to SA [REDACTED]

67C

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LA 100-41648

Identity of Source

LA T-2

[REDACTED]
(Unconceal per request)

LA T-3

[REDACTED]

LA T-4

[REDACTED]

LA T-5

[REDACTED]

LA T-6

[REDACTED]

LA T-7

[REDACTED]

LA T-8

CS LA 3469-S*

LA T-9

[REDACTED] b7D

LA T-10

Chicago Police Department
Security Unit

Location

100-44995-218

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D

Orally to SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C

100-58398-1A1

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D

Orally to SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C

100-18355-1B18-1,
Vol. 21, P. 2037

100-23308-4, p. 7

CG 100-22396

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to: 1 - FIO, Los Angeles (REGISTERED)
2 - Region II, Pasadena (REGISTERED)
1 - OSI, District 18, Maywood (REGISTERED)

Report of: [REDACTED] b7c
Date: JUL 26 1960

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: Los Angeles 100-41648

Bureau File #: 100-387835

Title: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Synopsis: As of 7/12/60 the headquarters of the Los Angeles Sobell Committee (LASC) were located at Suite 3, 462 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles. LASC composed of five chapters - Los Angeles Area; Long Beach-San Pedro; West Los Angeles; Valley; and Altadena-Pasadena. [REDACTED] Other officers set forth in details. [REDACTED]

Major campaign is clergy appeal to President EISENHOWER for executive clemency for SOBELL. Subversive ramifications indicated through connections with Communist Party and Socialist Workers Party. h b1.

-P*-

Classified by 4913 *RP/du*
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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OTHERWISE

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b2

LA 100-41648

DETAILS: For the purpose of brevity, the Los Angeles Sobell Committee will be hereinafter referred to as the IASC and the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell as the CSJMS. u

The Communist Party (CP), United States of America, and the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. u

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[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1


[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

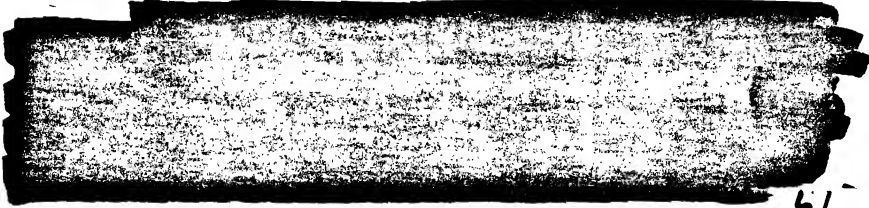
[REDACTED] b1

LA 100-41648

LA T-1 (5/4/60)



LA T-1 (7/12/60)



LA T-2 (1/12/55)
(1/17/55)

IRMA (WIDGE) NEWMAN was a member of the American Youth for Democracy (AYD) while attending New York University, New York City. u

The AYD has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. u

LA T-3  67D



LA 100-41648

LA T-3 [REDACTED] 67D

[REDACTED]

MARY KRVAR

LA T-4 [REDACTED] 67D

[REDACTED]

LA T-1 (4/22/60)
LA T-5 (5/12/60)

[REDACTED]

LA T-1 (7/12/60)
LA T-5 (7/12/60)

[REDACTED]

HELEN JOSEPHINE BLAIR

LA T-6 (5/12/54)

Sometime during the early 1950s, HELEN BLAIR was Executive Secretary of the Hollywood Arts, Sciences, and Professions Council (see Appendix). U

LA 100-41648

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LA T-8 (11/29/50)

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[REDACTED] b1

ALICE HAGGERTY

LA T-9 (4/19/45)

ALICE HAGGERTY was assigned as a member to the 40th A.D. Branch, Los Angeles County CP, during 1944. u

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

EDYTHE MARGOLIS, nee COHEN

LA T-10 [REDACTED] b7D

EDYTHE COHEN was a member of the CP in the Chicago, Illinois, area in 1939. u

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

LA 100-41648

LA T-1 [REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1
JANET GOLDSTEIN

LA T-117(7/14/60)

As of July 14, 1960, JANET GOLDSTEIN was a member of the Los Angeles Local - SWP. u

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. u

V. MEMBERSHIP

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

LA 100-41648

b1

b1

b1

b1

b1

b1

X. PUBLICITY

LA T-16 (10/30/59)

Informant made available a printed, undated form letter entitled "Appeal to the President on Behalf of MORTON SOBELL." This letter contained the names of 282 clergymen sponsoring the appeal, and among this list were 40 clergymen in the Los Angeles, California, area. *W*

APPENDIX

BAY AREA COUNCIL OF SOBELL COMMITTEES,
aka Northern California Council of
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A confidential source advised [REDACTED] that the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees (BACSC) was formed on October 17, 1955, in San Francisco, California, as the local affiliate of the National Sobell Committee, to carry out the policies of the National Committee to obtain the freedom of MORTON SOBELL. 67D

On November 25, 1959, a second confidential source advised that the BACSC, also referred to as the Northern California Council of Sobell Committees, is one and the same, and their headquarters is located at 345 Franklin Street, San Francisco, California, and is continuing to function and plan future Sobell affairs.

[REDACTED]

67D

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

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"Following the execution of atomic spies ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon MORTON SOBELL,' the ROSENBERGS' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October, 1953, and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case'...."

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

APPENDIX

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE ARTS,
SCIENCES AND PROFESSIONS, aka.,
Hollywood Arts, Sciences and
Professions Council

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations" (revised January 2, 1957) page 132, stated this organization is cited as "one of the major Communist dominated propaganda media on the Pacific Coast" (California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1955, pages 392 and 393).

An informant advised [REDACTED] that the Los Angeles Chapter was dissolved on January 3, 1956. - 67D

The National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions has been cited as a "Communist front" by the United States Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report number 1954, dated April 26, 1950.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Los Angeles, California

JUL 26 1960

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-41648

Title COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Reference Report of Special Agent [REDACTED]
dated as above, at Los Angeles, b7C
California

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

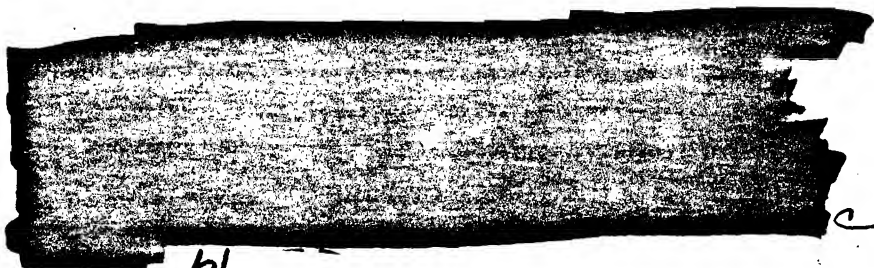
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE JUL 26 1960	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 6/24 - 7/18/60
TITLE OF CASE COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] 67C	TYPED BY nlb
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C; INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950	

REFERENCE: Report of SA **[REDACTED]** dated 2/12/60, at
Los Angeles. **67C**

-P*-

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		SERIALIZED
		JUL 1 1960
		FBI - NEW YORK
		107111

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Exempt from GDS, Category **2**
Date of Declassification Indefinite

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LA 100-41648

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- 2 - New York (100-107111)(REGISTERED)
- 1 - Chicago (Info.)(100-25530)(REGISTERED)
- 1 - San Diego (100-9380)(Info.)(REGISTERED)
- 1 - San Francisco (100-35117)(Info.)(REGISTERED)
- 2 - Los Angeles (100-41648)

LA 100-41648

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed, and "T" symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed. u

This report is classified confidential because data reported from LA T-1, LA T-3 through LA T-5, LA T-7 and LA T-11 through LA T-23 could reasonably result in identification of confidential informants of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof. u

-B-

COVER PAGE

LA 100-41648

LEADS

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. Will follow and report the activities of the Los Angeles Sobell Committee.

One copy of this report and one copy of the letterhead memorandum are being furnished to Chicago, San Diego and San Francisco for their information since it has been established there is a close alliance between the Los Angeles Sobell Committee and the Sobell Committees of those areas.

Copies have also been designated for FIO, Los Angeles; Region II, Pasadena; and OSI, District 18, Maywood, for the information of those agencies.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

Location

Orally to SA [REDACTED] b7C

Orally to SA [REDACTED] b7C

LA 100-41648

Identity of Source

LA T-2

[REDACTED] b7D

LA T-3

[REDACTED]

LA T-4

[REDACTED]

LA T-5

[REDACTED]

LA T-6

[REDACTED]

LA T-7

[REDACTED]

LA T-8

CS LA 3469-S*

LA T-9

[REDACTED] b7D

LA T-10

Chicago Police Department
Security Unit

b7D

Location

100-44995-218

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D

Orally to SA

[REDACTED] b7C

100-58398-1A1

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D

Orally to SA

[REDACTED] b7C

100-18355-1B18-1,
Vol. 21, P. 2037

100-23308-4, p. 7

CG 100-22396

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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[REDACTED] b1

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[REDACTED] u 67D

LA 100-41648

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[REDACTED] 67D

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LA 100-41648

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] named other officers and members of the staff of the LASC as follows:

b7D

DOROTHY MAYR - Treasurer and National Committee member, CSJMS;

EVELYN BURKETT - Recording Secretary.

~~(u)~~

DOROTHY MAYR

[REDACTED]

As of July 12, 1960, DOROTHY MAYR was the Organizational Secretary of the Northeast Club, SCDCR.

b7D

~~(u)~~

LA 100-41648

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

LA 100-41648

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

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b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b1

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

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APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-41648

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Los Angeles, California

JUL 26 1960

Title **COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL**

Character **INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950**

Reference **Report of Special Agent [REDACTED]
dated as above, at Los Angeles,
California 67C**

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

FILE DESCRIPTION

NEW YORK FILE

SUBJECT Rosenberg/Sobell
Committee

FILE NO. 100-107111

VOLUME NO. 96

SERIALS 4106

Thru

4133

File No: 100-107111Re: Rosenburg/Sobell CommitteeDate: 1/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
4106	6/27/60	LA LET TO HQ	2	1		
4107	7/27/60	LA AIRTEL TO HQ	2	1		
4108	7/29/60	HQ LET TO NY	1	1		
4109	7/29/60	SAN DIEGO REPORT TO HQ	10	10		
4110	8/1/60	SA MEMO TO SAC, NY	2	—		
4111	8/1/60	SAC, NY - LET TO SAC, LA	5	—		
4112	8/1/60	LA AIRTEL TO HQ	1	—		
4113	8/2/60	WFO LET TO NY	1	1		
4114	8/2/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	5	—		SEE NY FILE # 100-109849
4115	8/3/60	SAC, NY LET TO HQ	1	—		
4116	8/4/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	2	—		SEE NY FILE # 100-371581
4117	8/4/60	NY LET TO LA	4	1		

*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque, New York

FBI/DOJ

File No: 100-107111

Re: Rosenberg/Sobell Committee

Date: 1/78
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
4118	8/5/60	Informant report	1	1		
4118	7/30/60	Encl: to above informant report	5	5		reverse of intercollegian article not counted as released page
4119	8/8/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	2	-		
4119A	8/9/60	3 SA memos TO SAC, CV enclosures to P/S below	2 2/3	2 2/3		
4119B	8/9/60	Routing slip from CV TO NY	1	1		
4120	8/8/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	2	-		
4121	8/9/60	SAC, BA AIRTEL TO HQ	1	-		
4122	8/9/60	SAC, Ph airtel to HQ	2	2		
4123	8/9/60	NY AIRTEL TO HQ & LHM	1 1/2	1 1/2		
4123A	8/9/60	Informant report	1	1		
4124	8/12/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	3	1		
4125	8/12/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	2	-		SEE FILE # 100-109849

*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque, New York

File No: 100-10711Re: Rosenburg/Sobell CommitteeDate: 1/78
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
4126	8/12/60	SA MEMO TO SAC	2	-		SEE NY FILE # 100-69849
4127	8/24/60	Informant report	2	-		SEE NY FILE # 100-109849
4127	7/26/60	Informant report	1	-		
4127A	8/15/60	SAC, NEWARK LET TO NY	2	2		
4128	8/17/60	MP REPORT TO HQ ^{NY CORR 18} _{lost page}	12	12		11up
4129	8/19/60	CH report to HQ	26	-		Referred to another Agency
4130	8/22/60	SA MEMO TO SAC, NY	2	-		
4131	8/30/60	SAC, AT LET TO HQ	2	2		
4132	8/31/60	NY LET TO HQ & 2 AM	1/1	1/1		
4133	8/31/60	PH report to HQ	30	29		

*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque, New York

FBI/DOJ

Department of Justice

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Jul 2 - 70 all things

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Sept 4 - 7th Oct

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

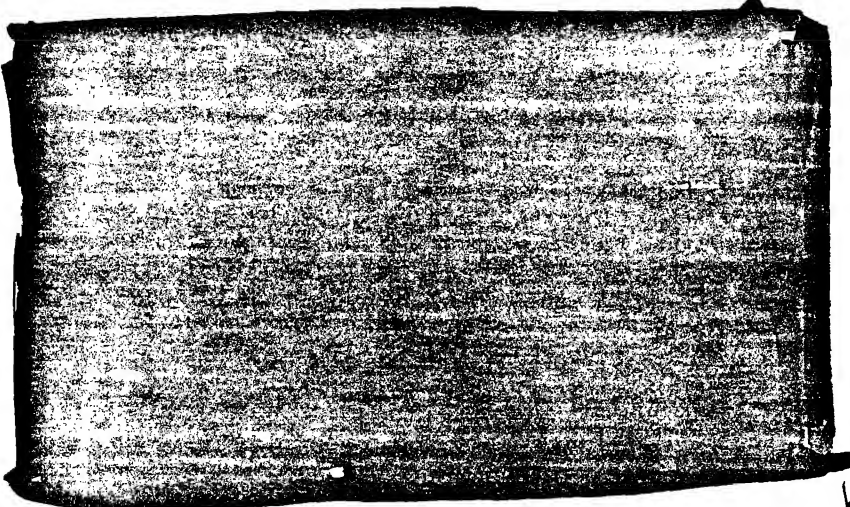
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41648)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS - C
OO: New York

DATE: JUL 7 1960

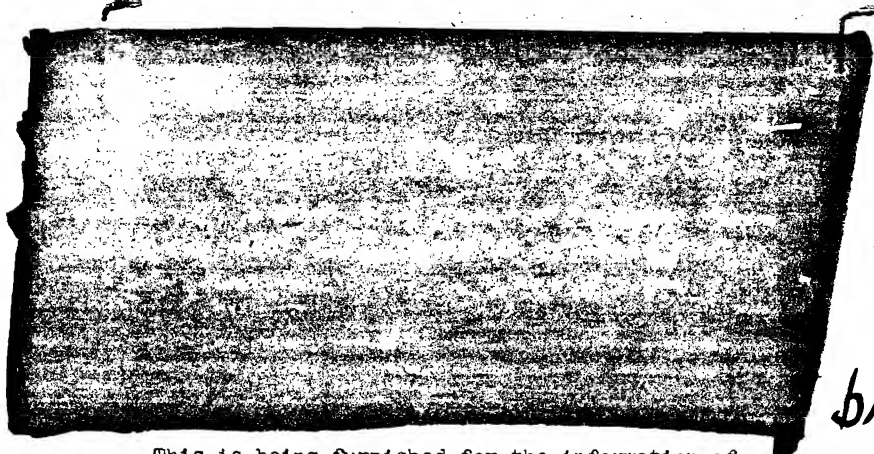
Re New York airtel to Director, dated 7/7/60.

- 
- 2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)
1 - Boston (100-27290) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Chicago (100-25530) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Detroit (100-) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Milwaukee (100-11982) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Minneapolis (100-8894) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - New Haven (100-) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - New York (100-107111) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Portland (100-9004) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - San Francisco (100-35117) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Seattle (100-22197) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Washington Field (100-25474) (CSJMS) (REGISTERED)
1 - Los Angeles

LDJ:BLC

(14) 100-123038
27 41

b1
100-107111-4106



This is being furnished for the information of those offices through whose territory NEWMAN may pass on her tour. The Los Angeles Office will maintain close contact with informants concerning NEWMAN and will promptly advise the Bureau and interested offices concerning NEWMAN's future travel plans.

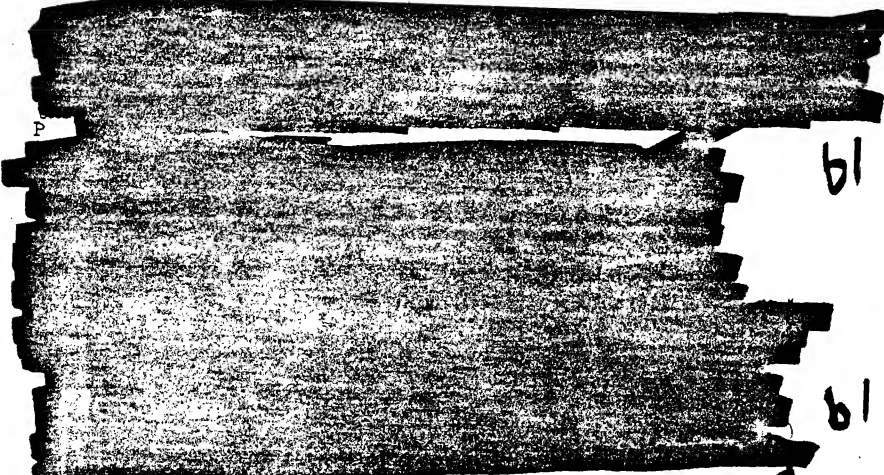
7/27/60

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41648)
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS-C
OO: NEW YORK

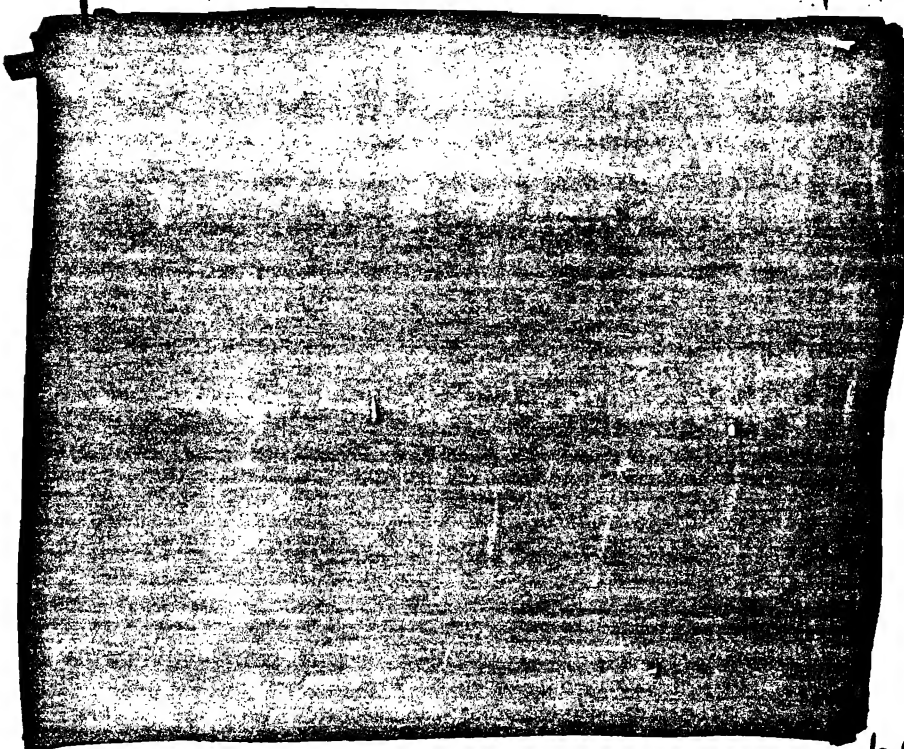
Re Los Angeles letter to Director 7/27/60



DOJ:rnf
(Pr)

100-102117-4107
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
JUL 29 1960
FBI - NEW YORK

LA 00-41648

 b1
For the information of the Bureau a supplemental letterhead memorandum regarding NEWMAN's travel in Canada is in preparation.

This information is set out for whatever action the interested offices deem advisable.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4108 DATE 7-29-60

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGE ~~11~~

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~XXXX~~.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PORTING OFFICE SAN DIEGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 7/29/60	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/21 - 25/60
TITLE OF CASE COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c	TYPED BY [REDACTED]
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950	

SYNOPSIS: REFERENCE: Report of SA **[REDACTED]** dated 1/12/60 at San Diego. b7c

- P* -

LEADS

LOS ANGELES (INFORMATION)

One copy of instant report is being furnished to Los Angeles for information.

SAN DIEGO DIVISION

Will continue to follow and report the activities of the San Diego Sobell Committee which is an affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

INFORMANTS:

Identify of Source

File Where Located

- A -

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE:		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">1</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">100-107111-4109</div> <div style="font-size: 0.8em;">AUG 1960</div>
5 - Bureau (100-387835) (REGISTERED)		
1 - DIO, 11th Naval District, San Diego (REGISTERED)		
1 - OSI, Maywood (REGISTERED)		
1 - CIC, 115th Detachment, San Diego (REGISTERED)		
② New York (100-107111) (REGISTERED) b7c		
1 - Los Angeles (100-41648) (INFO) (REGISTERED)		
2 - San Diego (100-9380)		

SD 100 9380

SD T-1 is [REDACTED] b7D

SD T-2 is [REDACTED] b7D

SD T-3 is [REDACTED] b7D

SD T-4 is [REDACTED] b7D

SD T-5 is [REDACTED] b7D

b1
NY 100-107111-121013

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and "T" symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identity of the informants must be concealed.

This report is classified "~~Confidential~~" since data

SD 100-9380

reported from SD T-1, SD T-2, SD T-3, SD T-4, and SD T-5, if revealed, could reasonably result in identification of confidential informants of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to: 1 - DIO, 11th Naval District, San Diego (REGISTERED)
1 - CIC, 115th Detachment, San Diego (REGISTERED)
1 - OSI, Maywood (REGISTERED)

Report of: [REDACTED] Office: San Diego

Date: 11/29/59

Field Office File #: San Diego 100-9380

Bureau File #: 100-387835

Title: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Synopsis: MILTON HENRY LESSNER is Chairman of the San Diego Sobell Committee (SDSC), the San Diego, California, affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL. Various members of the San Diego Branch, Socialist Workers Party (SDB-SWP), and members of the San Diego County Communist Party, (SDCCP) attended a dinner sponsored by the SDSC in March, 1960.

- P* -

DETAILS:

SD T-1 and SD T-2 advised on December 16, 1959, that the San Diego Sobell Committee is the San Diego, California, affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.




SD T-1 and SD T-2 advised on December 16, 1959, that effective as of that date, DONALD ZIELINSKI was an unofficial member of the San Diego Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, (SDB-SWP), as a security precaution, but that he had full rights and privileges of membership.

The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) has been designated

SD 10-9380

by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order 10450.


SD T-1 and SD T-2 advised on December 16, 1959, that effective as of that date, MILTON SLAXTER and AIN ZIELINSKI were members of the SDB-SWP.



b7D


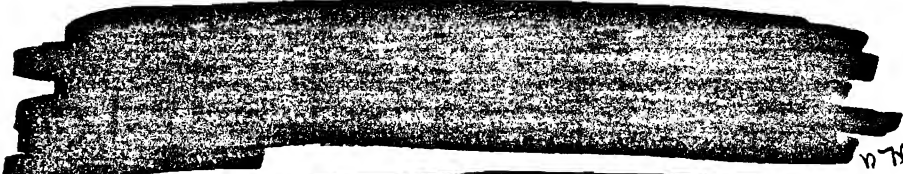
b7D

SD T-1 and SD T-2 advised on December 16, 1959 and on July 18, 1960, that effective as of those dates, WILLIAM KITT was a member of the SDB-SWP.



b7D

SD T-4 advised on September 4, 1959, that effective as of that date, MIRIAM and SIGMUND KUSNIBROZKY were inactive members of the SDCCP.



b7D

The Communist Party, USA (CP, USA) has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

SD T-2 advised on July 16, 1960, that MILTON HENRY LESSNER continues to be chairman of the SDSO, the San Diego, California, affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

SD T-4 advised on December 2, 1959, that as of that date, MILTON HENRY LESSNER was a member of the San Diego County Communist Party (SDCCP) and past literature director of the SDCCP.

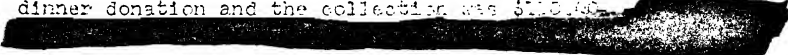
[REDACTED]

b7D

SD T-5 on March 16, 1960, made available a printed brochure which announced "Wanted 100 people to participate in the Morton Sobell Dinner to be held at 4501 North Avenue, San Diego, March 18, 1960 ...". The announcement further stated that part of the evening's program would consist of a showing of a "Sound Movie, Interview with Helen Sobell." The announcement further stated that "Lord Bertram Russell, Philosopher-Author and Martin Buter . Prof. Emeritus, Hebrew University, Jerusalem jointly convinced of Sobell's innocence, have asked President Eisenhower to grant clemency."


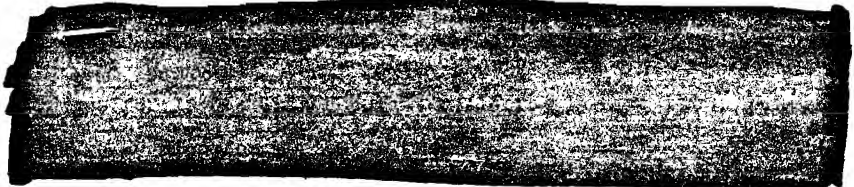
SD 10 -9280

SD T-3 advised on March 23, 1960, that on the evening of March 18, 1960, a dinner-meeting sponsored by the SDSC was held at the CUF Hall on North Avenue, San Diego. Two filmed interviews with HELEN SOBELL were shown. The meeting was chaired by MILTON LESSNER and ARTHUR STEVENS made the collection speech. LESSNER announced that the total of the dinner donation and the collection was \$110.00.

 b7D

SD T-4 advised on September 4, 1959, that effective as of that date ARTHUR STEVENS was an inactive member of the SDCCP.

SD T-4 advised on March 28, 1960, that on March 18, 1960, an SDSC dinner party was held at the CUF Hall, San Diego, for the purpose of raising funds for the MORRISON SOBELL case.

 b7D b7D b7D b7D

APPENDIX

NATIONAL GUARDIAN CLUB,
San Diego, California, Aka
Guardian Angel Club,
National Guardian Club of
San Diego, National Guardian
Readers Group

A confidential source advised on May 10, 1960, that instant organization was formed on November 19, 1955, by a group of Communist Party (CP) sympathizers and suspected CP members, to support the "National Guardian" by subscriptions, donations, and programs designed to arouse interest in the issues being favored by the "National Guardian". The club was inactive from June 17, 1956, until September 19, 1958.

This source and another source advised on May 10, 1960, that the club was reactivated on September 19, 1958, by members of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) for recruiting purposes. These sources advised that the club is now completely dominated and controlled by the San Diego Branch of the SWP. Its sole activity consists in presenting SWP selected speakers at meetings held under the auspices of the club.

The 1949 report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities cited the "National Guardian" as a publication launched in New York in 1948, aiming at national circulation, which it found to be from its inception notoriously Stalinist in its staff, writers, management and content. (1949 report of the California Senate Fact Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, page 394)

The masthead of the "National Guardian", issue of May 16, 1960, reflects that it is published weekly by Weekly Guardian Associates, Incorporated, 197 East 4th Street, New York City.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

COMMUNITY UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP

(OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

" * * * when the Communists were expelled from the San Diego First Unitarian Church by the pastor, PETER SAMSON, they set up a competitive organization, the Community Unitarian Fellowship. This was designed to operate as a 'non-religious' front organization * * *. The Communist group was refused recognition both by the San Diego Unitarian Church and by the American Unitarian Association, the parent body of Unitarian churches in America."

(Committee on Un-American Activities,
Annual Report for 1955, H. R. 1648 , January 17,
1956, originally released January 11, 1956, p.
26.)

APPENDIX



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Diego, California
July 29, 1960

Title COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Reference Report of SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] dated and captioned
as above. b7C

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 411D DATE 8-1-60

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
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to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number [REDACTED].

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4111 DATE 8-1-60

CONSISTING OF 5 PAGES

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under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
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Officers number ~~XXXX~~.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4112 DATE 8-1-60

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGE

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to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
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source. This serial bears the Classification
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FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4113 DATE 8-2-60

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source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number 2.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4115 DATE 8-3-60

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGE

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to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~250~~.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4117 DATE 8-4-60

CONSISTING OF 4 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
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Officers number ~~278~~.

8/5/60

Date received 8/4/60	Received from (name or symbol number) [REDACTED] b7D	Received by [REDACTED] b7C
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Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☒ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Dictated _____ to _____

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

Date of Report

8/3/60

Date(s) of activity

7/30/60

Brief description of activity or material

Material concerning

MORTON SOBELL (attached)

File where original is located if not attached

For 100-107111

Remarks: ① Form letter addressed to Pres. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, unsigned, requesting that MORTON SOBELL's sentence be commuted to time served.

② Reprint from THE INTERCOLLEGIAN, APRIL 1959, of article "The Case of MORTON SOBELL."

③ Three page mimeographed report entitled "Further Developments in Morton Sobell Case Since Report to President Eisenhower was Submitted". This item is dated January-March 1960.

100-107111

Block Stamp

100-107111-4118

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1960 - 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

b7C

President Dwight D. Eisenhower
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Many of our most eminent citizens and publications believe the trial of Morton Sobell to have been unfair, or the 30-year sentence excessive. In view of this significant concern, it is disturbing that no action has yet been taken in his behalf.

I wish to add my voice to those requesting you to commute his sentence to the time served. Even the possibility that an innocent man may be imprisoned is a terrible thing. Each added day of prison that Morton Sobell is made to endure -- and he is already in his 10th year -- compounds this tragic situation for the Sobell family and for our country.

Very sincerely yours,

all to 100-10711-4118



THE INTERCOLLEGIATE
IS PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL
STUDENT COUNCIL OF THE YMCA & YWCA

April 1959

the sixth Assembly of the Student YMCA-YWCA

second report issue

Issue of the month

The case of Morton Sobell

At the Assembly, both Dr. Paul Lehmann and Dr. Gardner Murphy called attention to the Morton Sobell trial and mentioned that Christian Association should study the record of this case. Wherever a genuine seeking and freedom of spirit is any society exists, that society cannot go long without seeking its behavior and practice.

The following statement has been made by a group of distinguished citizens. We commend it to the attention of every Christian Association.

THE UNDERSIGNED are American citizens who believe that the sentence of Morton Sobell should now be commuted. Sobell was convicted of conspiring with others to transmit to the Soviet Union writings and information relating to the national defense of the United States and was sentenced on April 1, 1951 to serve thirty years in Federal Prison.

Morton Sobell was tried with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were convicted of espionage in connection with the atomic bomb and who were sentenced to death and later executed. Sobell, however, was never implicated in any way with involvement in the atomic espionage for which the Rosenbergs were convicted. This fact was confirmed by the judge who sentenced Sobell.

This statement is not concerned with the Rosenberg conviction. The undersigned are and consistently have been convinced anti-Communists. None are associated with any organization, committee or group of any kind concerned either with the case of the Rosenbergs or that of Sobell, nor are any of the undersigned connected in any way with Morton Sobell or any members of his family. After study of the case, we believe that the following considerations warrant a commutation of the very heavy sentence Sobell is now serving.

1. Sobell was never implicated with atomic espionage for which the Rosenbergs were convicted.
2. The charges against Sobell, supported mainly by the testimony of one man, Max Elitcher, were that he had solicited information, and had on one occasion taken something which looked like a can of film to Julius Rosenberg. No specific item of information supposed to have been secured by him or transmitted by him to anyone else is specified in the record. The case against him, therefore, is vague in content and slender in proof. The possibility that a trip to Mexico which he and his family took should be construed as flight cannot be ignored, though it is subject to various interpretations.
3. Whether or not the judge and prosecution made sufficient efforts to provide a fair trial, we ought to recognize that the emotion surrounding the trial of the Rosenbergs and the fact that Sobell's case was tried with theirs made it difficult to separate the two cases and to recognize

the very different character of the two charges and the evidence introduced to support them respectively.

4. Sobell has already served, with good conduct, nearly eight years in prison, six of them in Alcatraz.

5. As Americans we are fully aware of the threat of communism to our freedom and way of life. Any attack on that freedom from without or within must be resisted. Nevertheless, one of the factors which makes that freedom so precious is its capacity to practice a disciplined and humane administration of justice precisely in those

cases where emotions are aroused which make it difficult to remain objective about the merits of a specific case. We believe a commutation of the Sobell sentence would demonstrate our national faith in that freedom.

REINHOLD MIEBURN
Vice-President and Professor of
Ethics and Theology
Union Theological Seminary
New York City

JOHN C. SPARKETT
Dean and Professor of Ethics
and Theology
Union Theological Seminary

EDWARD D. W. MORTIMER
Associate Professor of Law
New York University

EDMOND CANN
Professor of Law
New York University

DANIEL DAY WELLS
Professor of Systematic Theology
Union Theological Seminary

PAUL RANNEY
Professor of Religion
Princeton University

JEROME NATHANSON
Administrative Leader
New York Society for
Ethical Culture

(Signatures for Identification only)

WHAT YOU CAN DO . . .

1. Malcolm T. Sharp's book "Was Justice Done?" (The Monthly Review Press, \$3.50) is a very good point of departure. He is a law professor at the University of Chicago. The foreword is by Dr. Harold Urey.
2. A three page statement by Dr. Paul Lehmann is available upon request. This is an enlargement of the remarks he made at the Assembly on the Sobell case.
3. Other sources: Oliver Pitt, *Atom Spies*; John Wesley, *Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg*; William Reuben Tietz, *Atom Spies*; Also refer to U. of Chicago Law Review, Spring, 1957, Vol. 24, No. 3, p. 588; Yale Law Journal, Jan. 1958, Vol. 67, No. 3, p. 528; *Where Law Begins*, Winter 1956, Vol. 3, No. 1, p. 85.
4. Form a group of faculty and students to talk this through, seeking to bring the intelligence, information and convictions of the group to bear on this concrete issue of justice.

reprinted as a public service by

The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell
940 Broadway, N. Y. C. AL 4-9983

NOTE: The following comments on the Morton Sobell case by Dr. Paul Lehmann of the Harvard Divinity School are being sent by the Intercollegiate, student YMCA-YWCA publication, in response to requests for more information about the trial and imprisonment of Mr. Sobell.

MORTON SOBELL: SYMBOL OF THE
CHRISTIAN'S CONCERN FOR JUSTICE

The Christian's concern for justice is a basic response to what the God revealed to us in Jesus Christ and described in the Bible is doing in the world. Images get to the heart of the matter more quickly than do concepts, and a careful reading of the Bible will disclose that the characteristic images in terms of which the Bible describes what God is doing in the world are political images. They are political images in the fundamental sense of the word "political": for politics has to do with what it takes to maintain and to keep human life human. The God of the Bible is thus at work in the world "to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant" (Jeremiah 1:10); "he has gathered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree" (Luke 1:51-52); he chooses "what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God" (1 Corinthians 1:28-29). In this context, justice is the setting right of what is not right in the world, the breaking down of every barrier to the fulfillment of human wholeness and the making room for what is genuinely human in the relations of men in their dealings with themselves and with one another.

Morton Sobell was convicted and sentenced to prison in the wake of the trial, conviction, and sentencing of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg (1951-53). His case has been called "the outstanding example of the serious lasting effects of the spy scare". The precepts and processes of justice are the right and proper instruments through which human societies order the common life, and endeavor both to protect and to further man's humanity as against his inhumanity to man. But in the actual exercise of justice, human societies not infrequently subordinate the claims of justice to the interests of power, and from time to time in the course of human affairs the destructive impulses and capacities of men, their hatreds and their fears, become compounded with irrational, deep and widespread insecurity, so that the very procedures and structures of justice become the instruments of the miscarriage of justice. If any "miscarriage of justice" means all legal processes have not been duly exercised and the judgment of wise and learned jurists asked. But a "miscarriage of justice" arises because the rules of legal evidence and the more delicate, difficult and fundamental human evidence are at variance. If not in conflict, the one with the other, the security of man's "reasonable doubt", designed to keep a healthy tension between the legal and the human evidence when the question of justice or injustice is up, proves under conditions of public hysteria to be a slender reed upon which a society can rest its conscience and its peace.

All this may be granted by non-Christians as well as by Christians. Indeed, non-Christians have often been more sensitive to the cleavage between legal and human evidence in matters of justice than Christians have been. Nevertheless, the authentic response of Christian faith to what God is doing in the world is nowhere more evident than in the persistent and restless sensitivity to miscarriages of justice which cannot come to peace with itself until law has once again been restored to its authentic function as an instrument for the humanization of man in his relatedness to man.

Morton Sobell was sentenced to prison for a thirty-year term in 1951. First in Leavenworth and then in Alcatraz, symbols of American punitive power at its worst, Sobell has been serving his sentence amidst rising doubts in the body politic of the United States about the evidence upon which he was actually convicted and

which lift the Sobell case above the level of the processes whereby injustice can be legally redressed, and transfer it to a level of symbolic significance of sanity, stability and integrity of the common life in the United States. It is at this symbolic significance which sharply juxtaposes the power of the state and the human significance of an individual citizen. It is this symbolic significance which sharply poses the question whether any society can safely allow a serious measure of justice to continue without redress. It is this symbolic significance which sharply poses the question whether Morton Sobell has not in the last analysis been caught up by forces which are so vastly more powerful and ominous than his or his deeds or misdeeds could possibly be, so that the humanistic foundations of justice in a society which has imprisoned him are at stake.

In a time of conformity, when non-conformity is a risk, students and their campuses do not need - above all things - the antidote of cautions. What they need above all things is to remember the human creativity has always been high when men have kept sensitive to what was immediately around them and out of joint. Whether one comes to the conclusion that the Sobell case should be reviewed or not, that Morton Sobell should be pardoned by executive clemency or not, a serious study and discussion of the issues and the significance of Morton Sobell's ordeal may well serve as an unforgettable undergraduate experience in what it takes to be and to stay a human being in this kind of world.

Whether or not Sobell is a Christian, I do not know. It does not matter. Christ died - not for Christians only - but for the ungodly, traitors for all men, Christians included. As God in Christ makes no conditions for forgiving men their sins and including them in fellowship with Him, so Christians make no conditions for their obedient concern for all sorts and conditions of men. The Christian doctrines of the Incarnation and Atonement mean nothing so much as that God who is revealed in Christ is active and at work on the frontiers of man's humanity to man. Student YM and YWCA have lost their real excuse for being unresponsive to the steadily responsive to what God is doing on the frontier. There comes about that Morton Sobell is the next-door neighbor of every campus YM and YWCA, who confronts them out of a great silence with the question of the integrity of their obedience to what God is doing in the world.

The basic factual materials for a discussion of the issues and significance of the Sobell case are of course the trial record itself. This can be obtained from the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell at 940 Broadway, New York 10, New York 10. But this record is long and tedious and perhaps not the most rewarding way to begin to understand the case. For this purpose the book by Professor Malcolm T. Sharp, of the Faculty of Law at the University of Chicago, entitled *Was Justice Done?*, New York, 1956, The Monthly Review Press, is the best point of departure. I could imagine groups of faculty and students under the leadership of the campus YM and YWCA spending a series of evenings in fruitful discussion of Professor Sharp's book, and going on from there as the discussion pointed the way. In some such way as this, intelligence, information, and love could be brought to bear upon one concrete issue of justice in our present society, and some glimpse be gained of what it means to live not in conformity, but in the freedom of a transforming faith.

Paul Lehmann
Harvard Divinity School
March, 1959

review of
preceding

Further Developments in Morton Sobell Case
Since Report to President Eisenhower was Submitted

January-March, 1960

APPEAL BY DEMOCRATS--The California Democratic Council, held in Fresno, Cal., and attended by some 3000 delegates representing 130 Congressional districts passed the following resolution unanimously: "Morton Sobell is serving his 10th year in prison. He has steadfastly proclaimed his innocence throughout his imprisonment. Many eminent Americans and other world figures including jurists, scientists, clergymen have also expressed substantial doubt as to his guilt. There does exist the possibility of human error in matters of judgment when that judgment has been subjected to the political tensions of the day. The California Democratic Council has traditionally expressed concern for possible infringements upon justice and civil liberty. The California Democratic Council calls upon the President of the United States to review again the facts in the Sobell case and take necessary action to secure ultimate justice."

WASHINGTON MEETING--An important meeting on the Sobell case has been held in Washington, D.C., with appeals being made by Gerhard Van Arkel, noted Washington attorney, and Raymond Wilson, executive secretary of the Friends Committee on National Legislation. The WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD reported that messages of support were read from Representatives Randall S. Harmon (D-Ind), William H. Meyer (D-Vt), and John A. Blatnik (D-Minn). The WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS also carried a report of the meeting under the heading "Might Be Acquitted Now--Sobell Conviction 'Debatable'."

NOTABLES IN SPECIAL PLEA--A letter has been published in the NEW YORK TIMES (Feb. 16) asking release of Morton Sobell and signed by Nathan Glazer, sociologist, Sidney Hook, professor at New York University, Irving Kristol, editor of the REPORTER magazine, and Dwight Macdonald of the NEW YORKER magazine. The signers take the position that even though they believe Sobell guilty, there was very little he was accused of doing and that his imprisonment should now be ended after 10 years. They also recommend release of David Greenglass and Harry Gold on the ground of excessive imprisonment.

ISRAELIS ACT FOR SOBELL--Fifteen eminent persons in Israel have sent a letter to President Eisenhower joining in the appeal for Sobell's freedom made by Lord Bertrand Russell of England and Dr. Martin Buber of Israel. Among those appealing are Dr. E. J. Jarius, Chairman of the Israeli League for the Rights of Man, J. Grünbaum, former Minister of the Interior of the Government of Israel, and Anna Weizmann, Professor Emeritus of the Weizman Institute of Science and sister of Chaim Weizmann.

MINNESOTA EDITORIAL--An editorial in the WILMAR (Minn) TRIBUNE titled "Seek Release of Sobell" presents the Sobell case as a carry-over from the days of McCarthyism and asserts: "Surely if we want to forget this blot on the history of American freedom, freedom of speech and such, if we admit that a lot of people lost their heads in those days and grievous mistakes were made, then we ought to try to correct one of these mistakes in the case of Sobell."

MARQUIS CHILDS WRITES ON SOBELL--In a column dealing with the effects of the McCarthy era, syndicated columnist Marquis Childs writing in the WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD and other newspapers throughout the country cited the case of Morton Sobell as a subject which needs re-examination. He wrote: "Undoubtedly, the atmosphere has cleared and one evidence is a re-examination of conscience. Last year the Portland OREGONIAN suggested in an editorial that someday the public conscience might be sufficiently stirred to determine whether Morton Sobell, now serving a 30-year sentence for conspiracy, was convicted of a crime or whether he was a victim of the emotionalism surrounding the Rosenberg case. With the clearing atmosphere there is a growing realization that freedom is not something we periodically pat ourselves on the back about. It is a creative act to be constantly renewed."

CLERGYMEN APPEAL--The Palo Alto Ministerial Association in California has sent the following communication to the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees: "Convinced that a request for clemency in the case of Morton Sobell is most certainly justified, we, the undersigned of the PALO ALTO MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION submit this letter to you. It is our hope that it will help in the efforts to release Mr. Sobell from prison and to provide for his reunion with his family."

In New York, the BAPTIST MINISTERS CONFERENCE passed a resolution urging Sobell's release and has submitted it to President Eisenhower.

There continues to be an increase in letters from individual clergymen, and many clergymen in various cities are circulating a special appeal already signed by some 700 clergymen.

RADIO STATIONS AIR CASE--Helen Sobell has recently discussed her husband's case over two important programs in Washington, D.C. and in Philadelphia: In Washington she was interviewed by Steve Allison over Station WWDC, and in Philadelphia a taped interview was made by Paul Parker of Station WIP.

I. F. STONE URGES CLEMENCY--Journalist I. F. Stone, in his weekly Washington newsletter of March 7, cites the recent public meeting in Washington as a "significant barometric indicator" of changing times. After reporting the meeting, Stone commented: "This August, Sobell will have been in prison ten years. The severity of his 30-year sentence contrasts with the vagueness of the offense with which he was charged, and the thinness of the threads linking him with the Rosenbergs. Had he been willing to testify against them, he might have escaped indictment. Had he been tried separately, it would have been difficult to convict him. Executive clemency is long overdue."

PABLO CASALS BELIEVES SOBELL INNOCENT--Mrs. Morton Sobell has received a letter in behalf of the renowned musician Pablo Casals, written by his wife, Marta Casals. Writing that doctor's health restrictions make it impossible for him to attend a reception in honor of Morton Sobell, although he would like to accept, Mrs. Casals states: "Mr. Casals would like to transmit his best wishes to you and Mr. Sobell and his hopes that you may be successful in your work to secure justice for your husband, as he believes in

CHURCH COUNCIL BULLETIN--The December, 1959, Bulletin of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.'s Department of Religious Liberty has an important recommendation concerning the Sobell case. It says concerning the book "Was Justice Done?" and the efforts for clemency: "If you have doubts, after examining Prof. Malcolm Sharp's thoughtful and moderate book on Morton Sobell, foreword by Dr. Harold C. Urey, you will probably be moved at least to write to the White House seeking clemency. (Monthly Review Press, \$3.50--can be obtained from the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, 940 Broadway, New York 10, N.Y.)"

MILWAUKEE CLERGY APPEAL--"Six Area Ministers, Rabbi, Join Sobell Clemency Plea" was the headline in the Milwaukee Sentinel of Sunday, March 13. The clergymen have sent the following statement throughout the state of Wisconsin: "We the undersigned, members of the clergy in Milwaukee, have reviewed the trial and sentence of Morton Sobell, who was convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage in 1951 during the height of national hysteria. We firmly believe that regardless of arguments for innocence or guilt of Morton Sobell, there can be no justification for the 30-year sentence imposed upon him on the flimsy evidence presented. Additional evidence in recent years has cast further doubt on the entire case. Documentary material is enclosed indicating Morton Sobell's innocence. We are appealing to the President, asking long-overdue clemency, and urging you to do likewise. All Americans with a sense of justice and concern for right will want to see this blot wiped out from our nation's history. It is still not too late to act in correcting one of the dark shadows hovering over American Jurisprudence. We agree with Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr and his co-signers who said 'Commutation of Sobell's sentence would demonstrate our national capacity for disciplined and humane administration of justice.' Thousands of other eminent Americans have added their voices to this appeal. Will you join them?" The plea was signed by Rev. Kenneth Smith, Rev. Raymond Ley, Rev. M.J. Battle, Rev. A.C. Pittman, Rev. John W. Cyrus, Rev. Lucius Walker, Jr., and Rabbi David S. Shapiro.

UNITARIAN ARTICLE--The February issue of the Unitarian Register carries an article on the Morton Sobell case by the Reverend Samuel Wright of Marin, California. The article is a condensation of a sermon which he delivered.

FILE #

100-107111

SUBJECT

ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL

4119

DATE

8-8-60

CONSISTING OF

2

PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

To

☐ Director

FILE #

Att.

☒ SAC New York

Title

☐ ASAC

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

☐ Supv.

SM - C

☐ Agent

☐ SE

HELEN SOBELL

☐ CC

SM - C

☐ Steno

☐ Clerk

NEW YORK

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Open Case

☐ Assign.....Reassign

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Bring file

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Call me

☐ Recharge serials

☐ Correct

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Deadline

☐ Return file

☐ Deadline passed

☐ Return serials

☐ Delinquent

☐ Search and return

☐ Discontinue

☐ See me

☐ Expedite

☐ Send Serials

☐ File

to

☐ For information

☐ Submit new charge-out

☐ Initial & return

☐ Submit report by

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Type

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action

Enclosed for each of the above files are two copies of each of the following listed memoranda--

Memo SA [redacted] entitled Sobell Committee, dated 7-21-60,

being report of [redacted] covering activity on [redacted]

Memo SA [redacted] entitled Sobell Committee, dated 7-21-60,

being report of [redacted] covering activity on 6-23-60.

Memo SA [redacted] entitled Sobell Case, dated 7-22-60,

being report of [redacted] covering activity on 6-23-60.

See reverse side

Office Cleveland

100-11111-419B

Cleveland, Ohio
July 20, 1960

MEMO: SAC, CLEVELAND

FROM: SA [REDACTED] b7C

RE: ROSSALL COMMITTEE

100-38848

cc New York re: b7C40 *Schell Comm* b7C40

DOCUMENTATION

Source	Description and/or date activity	Date Received	Agent Receiving	Location
[REDACTED] b7D	8/28/60	8/24/60	SA [REDACTED] b7C	[REDACTED] b7D

Following is a verbatim copy of informant's report:

"June 29, 1960
Cleveland, Ohio

"On June 23, 1960, a meeting was held to welcome HELEN SCHILL, wife of MORRIS SCHILL, now in prison in a Federal institution. This meeting was held at the Unitarian Society of Cleveland, 8143 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. There were about 60 people in attendance, including [REDACTED] b7D

Mrs. HELEN SCHILL.

RMH/hs

(11)

CC: 1 - [REDACTED] b7C 444

100-20243-44
4119A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 20 1960	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

[REDACTED] b7D

"The meeting was chaired by JEAN ROBBINS who introduced Mrs. SOBELL. Mrs. SOBELL gave a long speech, going over the conviction of her husband and stated that he should be free and that he was convicted unjustly. She further went on to state that on the evidence submitted, the ROSENBERGS should not have been electrocuted. She appealed for funds to assist her and her husband in his fight for freedom.

"After Mrs. SOBELL's speech a collection was taken [REDACTED] b7D

"A great amount of literature was set out available to those present regarding MORTON SOBELL and his fight for freedom."

Extreme care should be used in disseminating the above information to paraphrase it so as not to reveal the identity of the informant.

Cleveland, Ohio
July 22, 1960.

MEMO: SAC

FROM: SA [REDACTED] b7c

RE : SOBELL CASE
(100-20243)

COPIES TO:

cc New York - re 10/20/60 Sobell Committee
DOCUMENTATION

SOURCE	DESCRIPTION AND/ OR DATE ACTIVITY	DATE RECEIVED	AGENT RECEIVING	LOCATION
--------	--------------------------------------	------------------	-----------------	----------

[REDACTED] 6/23/60

6/29/60 [REDACTED] b7c

Following is a verbatim copy of informant's report:

"Date of Report: 6-23-60

Date of Meeting: 6-23-60

Type of Meeting: To meet HELEN SOBELL and hear her speak
in behalf of her fight to free her husband from prison.
(The JULIUS ROSENBERG - SOBELL case).

Place of Meeting: Channing Hall, The Unitarian Society
8143 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. 8:30 PM to 10:45

Persons in attendance: About 60 present.

(1) HELEN SOBELL Speaker

HEK/bab
(17)
[REDACTED] b7D

100-20243 - 499

Searched	Indexed
Serialized	Filed
JUL 22 1960	
FBI CLEVELAND	

b7D {
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

"Details of Meeting: JEAN ROBINS introduced HELEN SOBELL and Mrs. SOBELL gave a brief description of the trial and the events of the last 10 years. She condemned the prosecution miserably. Also the law enforcement agents (she said 'the government men or F.B.I. men') who Kidnaped her husband from Mexico. She claims MORTON is innocent of any crime. She did say that when in high school and college they did support a slightly left wing group but had never been communists. A question period followed Mrs. SOBELL's talk. A new firm of attorneys in New York 'DONNER, ? & ?' are preparing a new appeal for SOBELL."

b7C
SA [REDACTED] advises that informant identified [REDACTED]
b7D

Extreme care should be used in disseminating the above information to paraphrase it so as not to reveal the identity of the informant.

Cleveland, Ohio
July 30, 1963

MEMO: SAC, CLEVELAND

FROM: SA [REDACTED] b7c

RE: SOBELL COMMITTEE

100-20243

100-16574-PAINTER'S Union
100-754 ACLU b7c4D

cc: New York re: Sobell com

DOCUMENTATION

Source	Description and/ or date activity	Date Received	Agent Receiving	Location
[REDACTED] b7D	[REDACTED] b7D	[REDACTED] b7D	SA [REDACTED] b7C	[REDACTED] b7D

Following is a verbatim copy of informant's report:

[REDACTED]

b7D

SERIALIZED [X] FILED [X]
JUL 20 1960
FBI - CLEVELAND

RRR/HD
(8)

100-20243-497

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

"HELEN SOBELL made a little speech, stating she knew her husband was innocent; that he had spent 10 years in jail when he shouldn't have spent a minute; that her husband had been kidnapped from Mexico; that he should not have been tried with the ROSENBERGS; many well known people who had read the case did not agree with the conviction; that she was undertaking a drive to get HORTON out of custody by Christmas, and that a meeting would be held in Washington in Nov. 1950 to try to effect his release; if the President does not grant clemency to HORTON SOBELL, every effort will be made to have him paroled.

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

"There were many leaflets, books, etc., pertaining to the SOBELL case, distributed [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

With the above report, informant furnished the following literature:

- (1) Pamphlet, "When Conscience Speaks"
- (2) Pamphlet, "The Case of Morton Sobell"
- (3) Partial list of signers in Cleveland area of Appeal to the President on Behalf of Morton Sobell.
- (4) "Resolutions" by Cleveland Committee in Behalf of Justice for Morton Sobell.
- (5) "Appeal to the President on Behalf of Morton Sobell."
- (6) "A Wrong to be Righted" issued by "The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," New York City.

Extreme care should be used in disseminating the above information to paraphrase it so as not to reveal the identity of the informant.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4120 DATE 8-8-60

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~SECRET~~.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4121 DATE 8-9-60

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGE ~~A~~

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~2~~.

8/9/60

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

REGISTERED MAIL

TO : Director, FBI (100-387835)
FROM : SAC, Philadelphia (100-37667)
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL;
IS - C
OO: New York

C I R C L

On 8/8/60, [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised SA [redacted] that the Philadelphia Sobell Committee (PSC), local affiliate of captioned organization, sponsored a garden party Sunday, 8/7/60, at 839 Cricket Road, Secane, Pa. The purpose of this party was to honor the 60th birthday of Mrs. ROSA SOBELL, mother of MORTON SOBELL. Approximately 22 persons attended this affair.

JEAN D. FRANTZIS, an officer of the PSC, announced that plans were in the making for a mass visitation to Washington, D. C., and the White House by delegations from various states on behalf of MORTON SOBELL. FRANTZIS said the PSC hoped to organize a "trainload" of people to participate in this mass demonstration; however, she gave no additional details regarding this proposed activity.

- 3 - Bureau (100-387835) (RM)
- 1 - New York (Info) (RM)
- 1 - Washington Field (Info) (RM)
- 3 - Philadelphia
 - 1 - 100-37667
 - 1 - 100-42207-Sub 1 (CP, Library)

JJD:tsp

(8)

4/122

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 10 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

67C

PH 100-37667

C I N A L

b7D
[REDACTED] advised Mrs. ROSE SPRELL also spoke at this party. In her speech she, too, made reference to the Washington, D. C., visit but furnished no particulars.

On the date of contact, the informant identified JEAN D. FRANTZIS as a member of a Communist Party club operating in the West Philadelphia area of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware.

PROBOS"

8/10/60

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS - C
(OO: NEW YORK)

[REDACTED] b7

Enclosed are five copies of letterhead memorandum concerning this matter.

CLASSIFIED BY 4913 ~~2~~ 3-2-78
EXEMPT FROM GDS, CASE # ~~2~~
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.~~

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- ① - New York (100-107111) b2

RCB:mfm
(6) - *mfm*

100-107111-4123

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 10 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

675 [REDACTED] *gmm* *K*

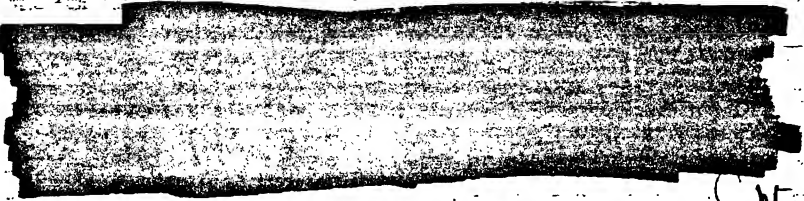
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, New York
August 10, 1960

NY 100-107111

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: Committee to Secure Justice
for Morton Sobell
Internal Security - C


The above source was not furnished any details
concerning the proposed letter.

This document contains neither recommendations
nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
It is the property of the Federal Bureau of
Investigation and is a loan to your agency; it
and its contents are not to be distributed outside
your agency.

- 5 - Bureau (RM)
① - New York (100-107111)

RCB:mfm
(8) *mfm*

att 100-107111-4123

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 10 1960	

5-441

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case'"

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 50.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

Date received b7D Received from (name or symbol number) b7D Received by b7C

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☒ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Dictated _____ to _____

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

Date of Report

Date(s) of activity

Exact description of contents of material

File where original is located (date) attached

Remarks:

① Announcement of Party in behalf of
Morton Schell campaign to be held on
8/27/60 at apartment of Bernette Rubin-
stein's 59 W 71st St. NYC.

② Eight page printed summary of a meeting
held at the Community Church of New York
on May 24, 1960 in behalf of Freedom for
Morton Schell.

Block Stamp

See 131043, 1094, 1094
1096 + 297

100-107111-4123A

b7C

41

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4124 DATE 8-12-60

CONSISTING OF 3 PAGES *of which*

Page 2

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~2~~.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111) (41) Date: 8/12/60

FROM : SA [REDACTED] (2) b7C

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS-C

Identity of Source: [REDACTED] b1 who has furnished
reliable info in past (conceal)

Description of info: Committee To Secure Justice
for MORTON SOBELL

Date Received: [REDACTED] b1

Received by: SA [REDACTED] (written) b7C

(original located: [REDACTED] b1

A copy of informant's report follows:

[REDACTED]

1cl RCB:cmh
(13)
ncl

b1

100-107111-4124

b7C [REDACTED]

NY 100-107111

* * * * *

[REDACTED]

By FD-306 dated 8/5/60, there has been submitted for the Sobell Committee file (NY 100-107111) items distributed at the above party as follows: (1) Unsigned form letter addressed to President D.D. EISENHOWER requesting that MORTON SOBELL's sentence be commuted to time served. (2) Reprint from the Intercollegian, April, 1959, of article "The Case of MORTON SOBELL." (3) Three page mimeographed report dated January - March, 1960, entitled "Further Developments in MORTON SOBELL Case Since Report to President EISENHOWER was Submitted."

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4127 DATE 7.26-60

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number [REDACTED].

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)

DATE: 8/15/60

FROM : SAC, NEWARK (100-36202)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL
IS - C; ISA of 1950
(OO: NEW YORK)

On 8/2/60, [REDACTED] (conceal identity), a source
of the Newark Office [REDACTED]

made available the following information: b7D

On 6/22/60, an article was published in the Ukrainian-language edition of "Svoboda", captioned "Churchmen In Defense Of Spies". This article criticized a rally which was held at the Community Church of New York, 40 East 35th Street, New York City, 5/24/60, on behalf of MORTON SOBELL, as well as the half-page advertisement, which appeared in the "New York Times", 6/20/60, reporting on the above rally. A translation of the above article is enclosed. It is noted that report of SA [REDACTED] dated 7/26/60, refers to the above rally and advertisement. b7D

2 New York (Encls. 5) (RM)
2 Newark [REDACTED]


WHR:and
(4) b7D

See 1B1088
Shaw 1092


4127A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 15 1960	
FBI - NEW YORK	

b7C




b7D



b7D

The half-page advertisement which had appeared in on page 20 of the "New York Times", 6/20/60, was purportedly published by the SPONSORS OF THE SOBELL DISCUSSION MEETING AT THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK, on 5/24/60, P. O. Box 343, Madison Square Station, New York 10, New York. This advertisement contained excerpts from speeches made by the various speakers at the above meeting. Included among the speakers was "HOWARD RADEST, Minister and leader of the Bergen, N.J. Ethical Society", who took an offering of \$965.00, contributed by the audience toward purchase of advertising space. He also was a speaker at the meeting.



Above for information.

b1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE MINNEAPOLIS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 8/17/60	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/5 - 8/16/60
TITLE OF CASE COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY njw
		CHARACTER OF CASE IS - C, SWP <i>b7c</i>	

SYNOPSIS:

REFERENCE: Report of SA **[REDACTED]** dated 1/27/60 at Minneapolis.
b7c

- P* -

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report is stamped confidential inasmuch as it contains information furnished by MP T-4 pertaining to finances and officers of the Minnesota Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, the unauthorized disclosure of which could reasonably result in the identification of a valuable and current informant.

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

INFORMANTS

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
5 - Bureau (100-387835) (RM) 3 - New York (100-107111) (RM) 1 - ONI, Chicago (RM) 1 - OSI, Chicago (RM) 1 - G-2, St. Paul (RM) 2 - Minneapolis (100-8894)	/		4158

MP 100-8894

Identity of Source

MP T-1 is

MP T-2 is

MP T-3 is

MP T-4 is

MP T-5 is

MP T-6 is

MP T-7 is

MP T-8 is

File Where Located

NY 100-107111-1B1013
(100-8894-761)

[REDACTED]

100-8894-767

[REDACTED]

LEADS

MINNEAPOLIS

AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Will submit report in six months regarding activities of the Minnesota Sobell Committee.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1 - ONI, Chicago
1 - OSI, Chicago
1 - G-2, St. Paul

Report of:

Date:

8/17/60

Office:

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Field Office File No.: Minneapolis 100-8894

Bureau File No.: 100-387835

Title:

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - C and SWP

Synopsis:

Minnesota Sobell Committee is an affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. Officers are JEAN BRUST, chairman and general secretary; JULIA ZUBAY, recording secretary; and J. H. CARROLL, financial secretary, all members or recent members of the SWP. Committee meets approximately every two weeks; however, activity of the Committee has been curtailed.

Minnesota Sobell Committee continues to be controlled locally by SWP.

- P -

DETAILS:

The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and the Communist Party, USA (CP) have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

I. ORGANIZATION

A. Affiliation

[REDACTED]

b1

A characterization of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell appears in the appendix to this report.

On March 23, 1960, MP T-2 made available information concerning the National Sobell Work Meeting held on March 19 and 20, 1960 at the McBurney YMCA, 215 West 23 Street, New York City, New York. This meeting, according to MP T-2, reviewed the work of the Sobell Committee in the past and pinpointed necessary work to be done in the future to obtain the release of Morton Sobell. MP T-2 advised that one of the individuals attending the above Work Meeting was JULIA ZUBA from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell is attempting to contact influential people in Washington, D. C. in an effort to get the name of Morton Sobell back into the courts. [REDACTED] the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell had in 1959 received \$33,569.19 and had spent \$33,032.95.

b7D

MP T-3 on June 6, 1960 advised that as of June, 1960, the Minnesota Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell was an affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell and that the prime objective of the affiliate and of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell was to obtain the release of MORTON SOBELL from prison.

On August 2, 1960, MP T-4 advised that as of July 1960, the Minnesota Committee was an affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell and that the Minnesota Committee secured much of its direction and advice from the National Committee.

B. Officers

MP T-4 on August 2, 1960 advised that as of July, 1960, the following were the officers of the Minnesota Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell:

JEAN BRUST, state chairman and
general secretary
JULIA ZUBAY, recording secretary
J. H. CARROLL, financial secretary

1. GENERAL ACTIVITY

The Minnesota Sobell Committee is not very active and that there is not much to do. JEAN BRUST was called very few meetings for the Minnesota Committee.

MP T-6 on March 23, 1960 made available an open letter dated March 11, 1960, emanating from the headquarters of the Minnesota Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell over the signature of JEAN BRUST. This letter enclosed a copy of

resolution passed by the California Democratic Council concerning MORTON SOBELL. The resolution was passed February 14, 1960. The resolution reads as follows:

"MORTON SOBELL is serving his tenth year in prison. He has steadfastly proclaimed his innocence throughout his imprisonment.

"Many eminent Americans and other world figures including jurists, scientists, clergymen have also expressed substantial doubt as to his guilt.

"There does exist the possibility of human error in matters of judgment when that judgment has been subjected to the political tensions of the day.

"The California Democratic Council has traditionally expressed concern for possible infringements upon justice and civil liberty.

"The California Democratic Council calls upon the President of the United States to review again the facts in the Sobell case and take necessary action to secure ultimate justice."

The above letter stressed the urgent need for financial aid and also enclosed a reprint of an editorial appearing in the "West Central Daily Tribune," Willmar, Minnesota, concerning MORTON SOBELL. This editorial appeared on January 25, 1960 and was written by O. B. AUGUSTSON, editor, "West Central Daily Tribune." The editorial is as follows:

"During the hysteria of the Korean War and the now deplored era of the witch hunters and McCarthyism a man by the name of MORTON SOBELL was convicted on the charge of conspiracy to commit espionage. He was given a 30 year sentence and has already served ten years of them in prison. Last Thanksgiving Day a petition signed by many eminent people, including many of the clergy appealed to President EISENHOWER to release SOBELL and commute his sentence. As part of this some 30 labor organizations on the West

coast carried an article entitled 'A Wrong to Be Righted.' The efforts in behalf of the imprisoned man proved of no avail at that time. Now a new appeal has been made to the president from the national headquarters of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. Again it will be pointed out that SOBELL became a victim of hysteria and the overzealous witch hunters, that the only witnesses that gave testimony connecting SOBELL with the conspiracy charge was MAX ELITCHER who admitted on the witness stand that he had perjured himself on another matter, and that SOBELL's case should have been tried separately from the atomic espionage accusations of ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG. Here was mighty flimsy evidence and an unduly harsh sentence. The whole legality of the trial and the sentence are being challenged. Seems to us that Americans generally would like to forget that period when many innocent people were villified and besmirched while the 100% so-called patriots ran wild to see whom they might devour. McCARTHY himself underwent censure. The period is one that found many in high places too frightened to speak out. Now they do when the heat is off. Surely if we want to forget this blot on the history of American freedom, freedom of speech and such, if we admit that a lot of people lost their heads in those days and grievous mistakes were made, then we ought to try to correct one of those mistakes in the case of SOBELL. During those hysterical days there were many informers whose reputations were bad in the first place, on top of that they were later exposed as confirmed liars - yet in the eagerness to get victims their testimony was soaked upon with glee but with not too much of honesty or qualms of conscience. Reminds one of the terrible days of the Inquisition when any irresponsible talk on the street was apt to send the hapless victim to the stake."

[REDACTED] b7D

In the May 18, 1960 issue of the "Minnesota Daily," the official newspaper of the University of Minnesota, it was reported on Page 7 that WIDG" NEWMAN began a Midwest tour to organize regional committees to influence reconsideration of the case of MORTON SOBELL, who has served 10 years of a 30-year sentence in Federal prison for espionage as an accomplice of executed atom spies JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG. The article reported NEWMAN as stating that she believed SOBELL was innocent and that his conviction was solely the result of one perjured witness, MAX ELITCHER. The article reported NEWMAN as stating that she began her work in behalf of MORTON SOBELL as a result of a mass meeting held in Los Angeles, California in 1953 and that through the effort of people interested in MORTON SOBELL there are now some 25 major cities which have organized committees in behalf of MORTON SOBELL.

[REDACTED] b

[REDACTED]

The June 8, 1960 issue of the "Minneapolis Star," a metropolitan newspaper, reported that Mrs. MORTON SOBELL, wife of the convicted spy, would speak on June 16, 1960 at a public meeting in the Unity Unitarian Church, St. Paul, Minnesota. The article further reported that Mrs. SOBELL has been appealing for help to free her husband for a period of nine years. b7D

The June 16, 1960 issue of the "Minneapolis Star" reported that Mrs. MORTON SOBELL was presently in the Twin Cities seeking aid for her husband, MORTON SOBELL. The article reported that Mrs. SOBELL stated that she feels that this is the year her husband will be free to come home, culminating a 10-year battle which has been fortified by a knowledge of her husband's innocence and the belief that the truth would become known. The article added that Mrs. SOBELL would speak at a public meeting at the Unity Church, St. Paul, Minnesota, at 8:00 p.m. that date.

On June 20, 1960, MP T-8 advised that on June 16, 1960, a public meeting was sponsored by the Minnesota Sobell Committee at the Unity Unitarian Church, St. Paul, Minnesota, and that HELEN SOBELL was the principal speaker. MP T-8 advised that Mrs. SOBELL stated that her husband had been sentenced to 30 years in prison for a crime that he did not commit and that he has now served ten years of the 30 years with good conduct. Mrs. SOBELL emotionally appealed to the audience pointing out the love his family had for him and their desire to live together again as a family. Mrs. SOBELL pointed out that her husband was convicted solely on the false testimony of MAX ELITCHER, who was mentally unbalanced and had for a long time been under the care of a psychiatrist. She pointed out that many professional men in the legal field, after reviewing the transcript of the conspiracy trial, were of the opinion that MORTON SOBELL was innocent and that he is unjustly confined. MP T-8 advised that in a question and answer period that followed an individual from the audience, who was a member of the American Legion, asked Mrs. SOBELL that if MORTON SOBELL was innocent, why did he and his family flee to Mexico? Mrs. SOBELL answered that they did not flee to Mexico, that they went there as a result of a planned trip and that MORTON SOBELL was interested in attempting to find work in Mexico. Mrs. SOBELL stated that while they did not have a visa to

enter Mexico, they did have a tourist card and that is all that is required. Mrs. SOBELL continued by stating that in Mexico they had rented an apartment in their own name and made no attempt to make it appear that they were other than who they actually were. MP T-8 advised that approximately 55 individuals attended the meeting [REDACTED]

On June 24, 1960, MP T-4 advised substantially the same information. b7D

MP T-4 on August 2, 1960 advised that the Minnesota Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell meets approximately every other week.

III. FINANCES

IV. SUBVERSIVE RAMIFICATIONS

On August 2, 1960, MP T-4 advised that the Minnesota Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell was, as of July, 1960, controlled and dominated by the SWP locally and that its officers were all members of the SWP, as were the majority of the members of its Working Committee. b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply,
Please Refer to
File No. 100-8894

Minneapolis, Minnesota
August 17, 1960

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C and SWP

Confidential informants and sources referred to in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated August 17, 1960 at Minneapolis, Minnesota, in captioned matter, have furnished reliable information in the past. *W*

This is the property of the FBI; it is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply,
Please Refer to
File No. 100-8894

Minneapolis, Minnesota
August 17, 1960

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C and SWP

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This is the property of the FBI; it is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4130 DATE 8-22-60

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety,
under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant
to Executive Order 11652 as it contains
information which would disclose an intelligence
source. This serial bears the Classification
Officers number ~~XXXX~~.

Director, FBI (100-387635)

8/30/60

SAC, Atlanta (100-4953)

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS - C
IS ACT OF 1950
(OO - NEW YORK)

On 8/26/60, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Bath Jacob Synagogue,
Atlanta, and the head of this Synagogue is
Rabbi FELDMAN, a close friend.

[REDACTED] advised that Rabbi FELDMAN does not visit
the U. S. Penitentiary very often, and does not
believe he is familiar with SOBELL or the
espionage case for which he was convicted.

[REDACTED] said that Rabbi FELDMAN reported to
him some activity which [REDACTED] believes would
be of interest to the FBI.

FELDMAN related to [REDACTED] in early August, 1960,
that about three weeks previously he was
invited to a luncheon by Rabbi ROTHSCHILD
of The Atlanta Temple. It was FELDMAN's
understanding that ROTHSCHILD had been invited
by an Emory University Law Professor as were
about one dozen other ministers, both Protestant
and Catholic. The meeting was actually a luncheon

2 - Bureau RM

1 - New York (100-107111) (RM)

2 - Atlanta

RRN:mel

(5)

SEP 2 1960

4131

held at the Quaker House and was arranged in order to give HELEN SOBELL and the Law Professor an opportunity to present MORTON SOBELL's case in a favorable way, i.e., to show he is innocent of Espionage charges of which he was convicted in the early 1950's, and sentenced to thirty years.

FELDMAN told [redacted] the law professor did most of the speaking and HELEN SOBELL made a short speech. FELDMAN stated most of the clergy appeared to be very much impressed with the case made for MORTON SOBELL by the Professor. FELDMAN said the Professor and HELEN SOBELL handed out some literature stating the case for MORTON SOBELL and promised to mail more literature in the future. They presented a petition asking that MORTON be released, which carried signatures of many New York ministers, priests and Rabbis as well as numerous prominent persons. FELDMAN also told [redacted] he believed the Professor and HELEN SOBELL plan to hold more meetings in Atlanta in the future and will probably attempt to get signatures to the petition at that time. They did not ask anyone to sign at the above luncheon, but merely requested those present to study the case as presented in the literature.

b7D

[redacted]

b7D

Atlanta requests Bureau authority to interview ROTHSCHILD for more details of the above described luncheon. Atlanta will attempt to determine the identity of the Emory Law Professor and from other details attempt to ascertain the subversive influences, if any, presently working in Atlanta among the clergy or on campus. P.

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)

8/31/60

SAC, NEW YORK [REDACTED] b7D

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS - C

Enclosed is the original and five copies
of a letterhead memorandum, dated and captioned as above.

The informant who furnished information
concerning Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING's agreement to
support captioned organization is [REDACTED] b7D

This document is classified "Confidential"
inasmuch as it contains information from a confidential informant,
the unauthorized disclosure of which might jeopardize her future
effectiveness and be detrimental to the national defense.

- 2-Bureau (100-387835) (Encls. 6) (RM)
- 1-New York (100-141567) (Committee to Defend MARTIN LUTHER KING)
- 1-New York (100-107111)
- 1-[REDACTED]

JPM:jmk
(5)

b7D

4132

*Let [unclear] know
[unclear] - [unclear]*

[REDACTED] b7C #41

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F

Re: Committee to Secure Justice for
Morton Sobell
Internal Security - C

A confidential informant advised on August 27, 1960, that he learned [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Martin Luther King, prominent Negro Minister from Birmingham, Alabama, declared in a letter addressed to the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, over the signature of his secretary, that he would be happy to lend his support for obtaining freedom for Morton Sobell. b7D

"The confidential informant who furnished the aforementioned information has furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

6-Bureau (100-387835) (RM)
1-New York (100-141567) (Committee to Defend MARTIN LUTHER KING)
1-New York (100-107111)
[REDACTED]

JPM:jmk
(9)

679

~~Confidential~~

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4133 DATE 8-31-60

CONSISTING OF 30 PAGES OF WHICH

PAGE 2

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office: PHILADELPHIA	Office: NEW YORK	Date: 8/31/60	Index: 8/10/60
TITLE OF CASE COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL		Rep: [REDACTED] b7c	HS: By: [REDACTED]
		CHARACTER OF CASE IS - C; ISA of 1950	

7/11/60
Synopsis:

Reference

Report, SA **[REDACTED] b7c** Philadelphia, 2/19/60.

- P* -

Leads

PHILADELPHIA

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Will follow and report the activity of the Philadelphia Sobell Committee and the Lower Bucks County Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below
Copies made: 5 - Bureau (100-387835) (RM) 2 - G-2, Philadelphia (RM) 1 - ONI, Philadelphia (RM) 1 - OSI, Olmsted Air Force Base (RM) 2 - New York (100-107111) (RM) 2 - Philadelphia (100-37667)		100-107111-4133 [REDACTED] b7c

FILE STRIPPED
BY **CG** ON **5/31/72**

Administrative Data

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed in this report and T symbols have been utilized only where necessary.

This report is classified confidential since information furnished by PHT-1, PHT-9, PHT-10, PHT-11, PHT-12, PHT-13, PHT-15, PHT-16, PHT-17 and PHT-18 could reasonably result in the identification of informants of continuing value and compromise the future effectiveness thereof.

Copies of this report are being designated for G-2, ONI and OSI for information.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that he attended the Philadelphia Sobell Committee meeting conducted in Philadelphia [redacted]. This information was not included in the details of the report because of the small number in attendance at this affair and in order not to reveal the extent of the Bureau's coverage of this meeting. b7D

The data furnished by [redacted] is located in Philadelphia file [redacted] b7D

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that he attended the Philadelphia Sobell Committee meeting on [redacted]. This information was not included in the details of the report for the same reason stated in the preceding paragraph. b7D

The information furnished by [redacted] is located in Philadelphia file [redacted] b7D

Informants

PHT-1 - [redacted] b7D

PH 100-37667

PHT-2 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-3 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-4 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-5 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-6 - HELENE ELITCHER
72nd Avenue
Flushing, N.Y.

Characterization of
BEATRICE GRAUMAN

PHT-7 - CS NY 425-S

Characterization of
ROSE MAMLIN

PHT-8 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-9 - [REDACTED] b1

New York file 100-107111-
1B-1013

PHT-10 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-11 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-12 - [REDACTED] b7D

- C -

COVER PAGE

PH 100-37667

PHT-13 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-14 - [REDACTED] b7D

University of
Pennsylvania, b7D
Philadelphia, Pa.
(requested)

PHT-15 - PH 547-S*

PHT-16 - PH 548-S*

PHT-17 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-18 - [REDACTED] b7D

PHT-19 - [REDACTED] b7D

(Panel Source)

Informants Used to Document
Organizations

Jewish Program Service
Committee (Sholem
Aleichem Club)

Lower Bucks County
Committee to Secure
Justice for Morton
Sobell

Philadelphia Sobell
Committee

Philadelphia Social
Science Forum Committee

- D* -

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

2 - G-2, Philadelphia
1 - ONI, Philadelphia
1 - OSI, Olmsted Air Force Base, Pa.

Report of:

Date:

8/31/60

Office: Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania

Field Office File #: Philadelphia 100-37667

Bureau File #: 100-387835

Title:

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Synopsis:

[REDACTED]
Organization continues to utilize residence of PEARL
CHERTOV, 2708 West Sterner Street, Philadelphia, as its
headquarters. Contributions from Philadelphia on behalf
of MORTON SOBELL reportedly totaled \$1,111.60, in 1959,
and Philadelphia's quota for 1960 is \$1,500. Activities

[REDACTED] regarding clemency
campaign for MORTON SOBELL set out. PSC held luncheon
honoring HELEN SOBELL in March 1960 and sponsored two
other meetings in April and May 1960.

[REDACTED] literature
distributed by PSC described. Connections with CPEPD
and PSSFC included.

- P* -

Details:

All addresses mentioned in this report are
located in Philadelphia, Pa., unless otherwise
indicated.

Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell
is characterized in the Appendix Section of
this report.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subversive Affiliations
of Officers

PEARL CHERTOV

On January 19, 1959, PHT-2 advised that PEARL CHERTOV was at that time a member of the Philadelphia Branch, Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

HARRIET FAHEY

PHT-3 advised on December 23, 1959, that HARRIET FAHEY was a member of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (CPEPD) from about 1946 to 1954.

The Communist Party USA, its affiliates and subdivisions, have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

SARAH EPSTEIN

PHT-5 advised on June 22, 1954, that SARAH EPSTEIN, 5745 North Fairhill Street, was a member of Lodge 169 of the International Workers Order in 1953.

The IWO has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

FREDA RAPPAPORT


PHT-2 advised on January 26, 1959, that although FREDA RAPPAPORT was not a member of the Philadelphia Branch of the SWP, she was a very close sympathizer.

JEAN FRANTJIS

PHT-4 reported on February 12, 1960, that as of this date JEAN FRANTJIS was a member of the OPEPD.

BEATRICE GRAUMAN

PHT-6 has advised that BEATRICE GRAUMAN was a member of the Communist Party (CP) in Washington, D.C., from 1943 to 1948.



ROSE MAMLIN


PHT-7 advised on January 16, 1949, and April 17, 1952, that ROSE MAMLIN became a member of Lodge 496, Jewish People's Fraternal Order (JPFO) of the IWO in March 1947 and was a member of this Lodge as of April 1952.

The JPFO of the IWO has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

LILLIAN MILLMAN



HENRIETTA OSTROY

 PHT-4 identified HENRIETTA OSTROY as having attended a Section Committee

meeting of the Southwest Section, CPEPD [REDACTED]

ROBERT PETERSEN

b7D

On September 13, 1956, PHT-1 reported that ROBERT PETERSEN joined the Franklin Roosevelt Club of the American Youth for Democracy (AYD) in Philadelphia [REDACTED]

b7D

The AYD has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

ARCHIE COLEMAN

On July 18, 1958, PHT-3 advised that he had known COLEMAN [REDACTED] Informant advised that during this period COLEMAN had been devoted to the CP.

b7D

[REDACTED] Does not know whether ARCHIE COLEMAN is a CP member at the present time.

b7D

Headquarters


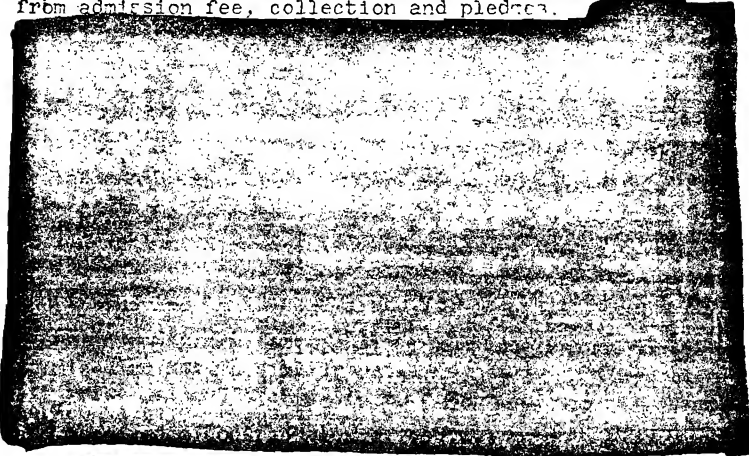
PHT-1 reported on August 12, 1960, that the PSC has no headquarters in Philadelphia but utilizes the residence of PEARL CHERTOV, 2703 West Sterner Street, as its headquarters and mailing address.

Funds



[REDACTED] the PSC affair held on December 10, 1959, at 5745 North Fairhill [REDACTED]


b7D


Street which featured HELEN SOBELL as the speaker. It was announced that \$303 was realized from this affair from admission fee, collection and pledges.



identified on February 2, 1944, HELEN GUTENBERG (HELEN SOBELL, Mrs. MORTON SOBELL), as a member of Education and Literature Committee of the CP, in Washington, D.C., as of February 1, 1944.

PHT-8 advised  that JULES ABERCAUPH attended a meeting of the South Philadelphia Section, CPEPD, .

 At this meeting ABERCAUPH commented that he had been a member of the CP for 40 years and would be lost without the CP.



[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

On March 8, 1960, PHT-9 furnished a document relating to and captioned "Financing Work of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell." According to this document, funds for operating the National Committee come "from thousands upon thousands of individuals through their devoted contributions." This item compiled the budget figures for the year 1959 under the caption "Where the Money Came From in 1959," listing most of the large cities in the United States and the amount of contributions from each city. Philadelphia was listed as having contributed \$1,111.60 during 1959.

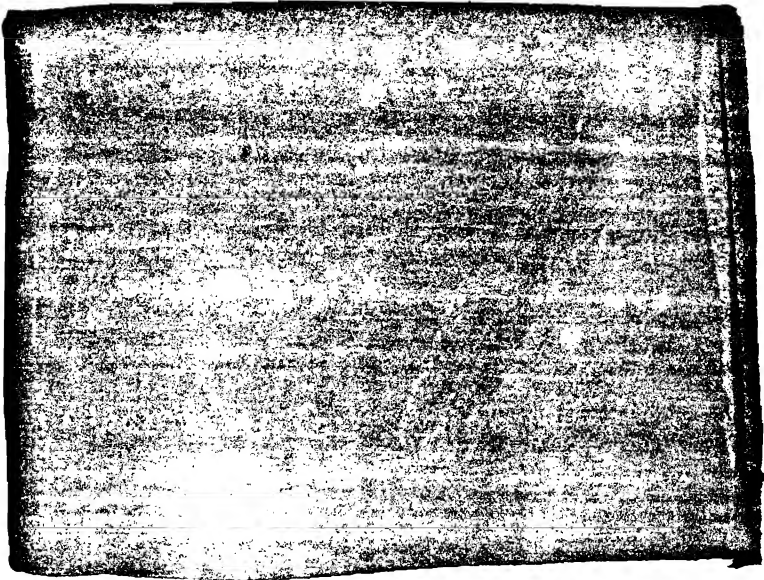
The above document also listed the following amounts:

Total contributions	-	\$33,569.19
Total Paid Expenditures	-	34,032.95
Total Debts	-	17,996.42
Budget for 1960	-	50,815.00

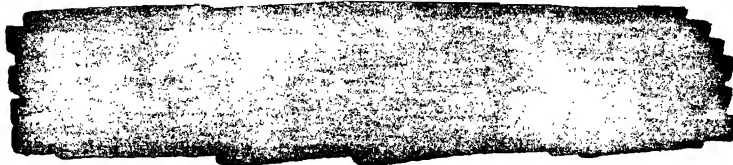
PH 100-37667

The above item also states that for raising the necessary funds for 1960, national quotas have been suggested for each city. The city of Philadelphia is listed under the "Eastern Region" with a suggested quota of \$1,500.

General Activities



b7D



b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] Sobell Committees throughout the country were making all out efforts to get HELEN SOBELL in the limelight. [REDACTED]

American Friends Service Committee (A.F.S.C.) was going to sponsor a forum in Texas and that PSC hoped to arrange for HELEN SOBELL to appear at this forum. However, no other details concerning this forum in Texas were discussed. b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

The purpose of these visits was to obtain contributions to the PSC.

[REDACTED] b7D

The Sholem Aleichem Club, a component part of the Jewish Program Service Committee, is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the National Sobell Committee intended to form a subcommittee to concentrate on a campaign urging a pardon for MORTON SOBELL.

[REDACTED]

b7D

PHT-10 advised on March 8, 1960, that a luncheon honoring HELEN SOBELL was sponsored by the PSC on March 7, 1960, at Tarello's Restaurant, 1623 Chestnut Street. The admission for this luncheon was \$2.25 a plate and it was attended by about 75 persons.

PHT-10 advised HELEN SOBELL gave a speech on her struggle to obtain the freedom of her husband, MORTON SOBELL, who is currently confined in a Federal prison. She said it was her firm conviction that her husband would soon be freed and the last step for him to gain freedom was up to President EISENHOWER. She urged those present to assist her in this struggle. Informant advised that at each place setting there was an envelope, and those present were requested to deposit a contribution in these envelopes. It was announced that over \$300 had been donated during this luncheon. Before HELEN SOBELL departed, she announced that she had an appointment to appear on a Philadelphia radio station following the luncheon.

PHT-11 reported on March 23, 1960, that a "National Sobell Work Meeting" was held March 19 and 20, 1960, at the McBurney YMCA, 215 West 23rd Street, New York, N.Y. The purpose of this meeting was to review

past activities on the part of the Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL and to formulate a plan of action for the future in order to gain MORTON SOBELL's release from prison. PHT-11 stated that approximately 21 persons attended this meeting from various areas of the United States. The informant identified JEAN FRANTJIS of Philadelphia in attendance.

PHT-1 advised on April 20, 1960, the PSC would sponsor a meeting at the Central YMCA, 1421 Arch Street, on April 22, 1960. The guest speaker for this affair, according to an announcement received by the informant, was Rev. ALVA TOMPKINS of the Olivet Presbyterian Church, Chicago, Ill. Informant stated that the announcement described Rev. TOMPKINS as the initiator of an appeal to clergymen of Chicago to work for the freedom of MORTON SOBELL. PHT-1 stated that this item also reflected that Rev. TOMPKINS was visiting Washington, D.C., on April 19 - 21, 1960, to implement further support of the SOBELL case through Executive and Judicial channels and that he planned to stay over at a number of Eastern cities, including Philadelphia, on his return to Chicago.

On April 28, 1960, PHT-12 advised that the PSC sponsored a meeting at the Central YMCA, 1421 Arch Street, on Friday, April 22, 1960. JEAN FRANTJIS served as Chairman and introduced the main speaker, Rev. ALVA TOMPKINS, a Presbyterian minister from Chicago, Ill. Rev. TOMPKINS spoke on his activities in the interest of justice for MORTON SOBELL. He said that his study of the case had convinced him that SOBELL was innocent and urged those in attendance to lend their assistance to win SOBELL's freedom. PHT-12 advised that about 22 persons attended this affair. [REDACTED]

b7D

PHT-10 advised on April 25, 1960, and PHT-13 advised on April 27, 1960, that the PSC sponsored a meeting at the Central YMCA, 1421 Arch Street on April 22, 1960. These informants advised that they attended this meeting and both furnished substantially the same information regarding this affair as PHT-12.

[REDACTED] public meeting sponsored by PSC on April 22, 1960. [REDACTED] there was a very poor turnout for this affair, which featured Rev. ALVA TOMPKINS of Chicago as the main speaker. [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

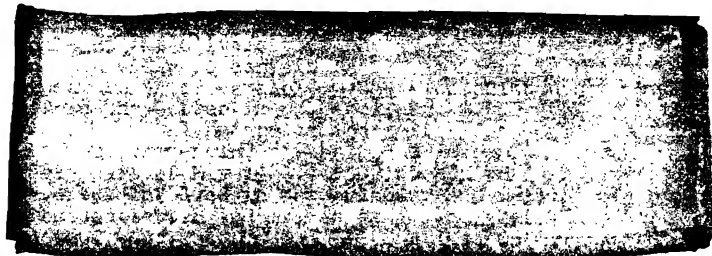
b7D

[REDACTED]

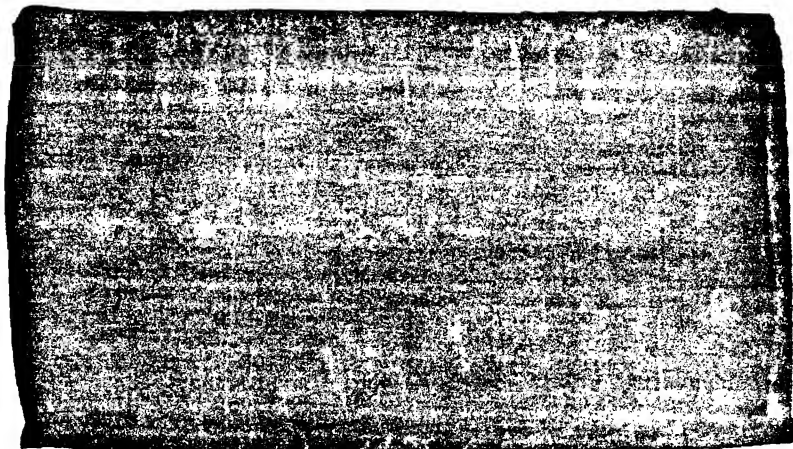
[REDACTED] when HELEN SOBELL visited Philadelphia in early March 1960, she contacted Dr. DERK BODDE of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and BODDE seemed extremely interested in the SOBELL case.

[REDACTED]

b7D



b7D



b7D

The Lower Bucks County Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

PHT-14 reported on April 25, 1952, that although he had no specific information which would indicate Communist activity or membership on the part of Dr. DERK BODDE, it was indicated to the informant as a result of BODDE's statements and activities that BODDE might have Communist sympathy or be involved in Communist activities.

PHT-4 advised on April 1, 1957, that as of March 1957 SOL ROTENBERG was a member of the District Committee, CPEPD.

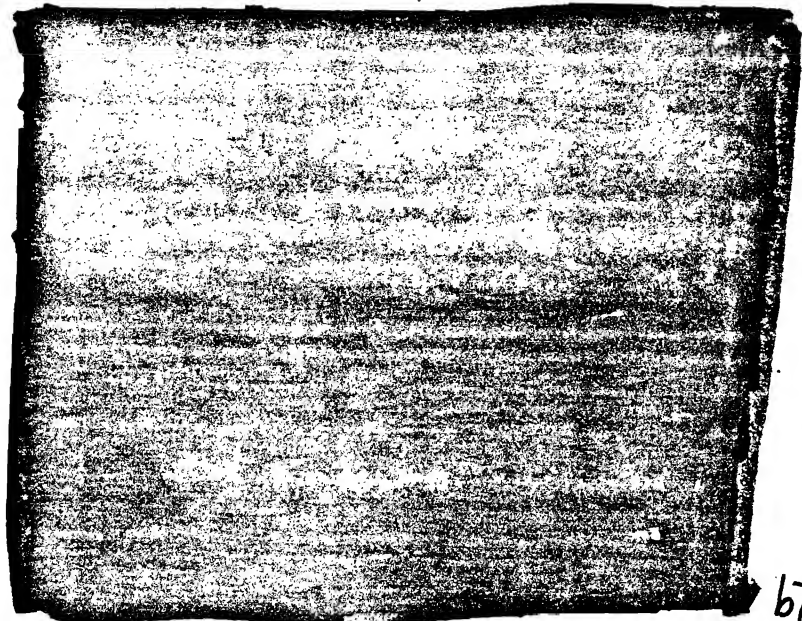
[REDACTED] 646
St. Ann's Avenue, Bronx, N.Y., advised during 1950 that the SOBELL family had resided at this address from July 1931 to December 1940. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] believed ROSE SOBELL to be a CP member. [REDACTED] he could not confirm her as a member of the CP or Communist front organization. b7D

[REDACTED] b2D

Informant advised that Rev. MC CORMACK stated that he and Rev. GAEDE had been traveling together for the past eight weeks from the West Coast to the East Coast in connection with the MORTON SOBELL case. He stated that on May 16, 1960, they called on Chief Justice of the Supreme Court EARL WARREN, seeking the release of SOBELL. He said that on the same day they attempted to contact President EISENHOWER but that President EISENHOWER was attending the Summit Conference in Paris, France. Rev. MC CORMACK stated that he and Rev. GAEDE agree that SOBELL is innocent and they have organized 97 clergymen who also support their belief and are working toward the release of SOBELL.

Literature



b7D

[REDACTED] PHT-12 furnished the following items which were distributed [REDACTED]

b7D

1. Booklet captioned "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell." This item contained a letter and a report to the President of the United States, dated January 5, 1960.
2. A mimeographed pamphlet containing the same information as shown in Item 1, above.
3. A leaflet captioned "Who's giving Away Secrets Now?" This contained the text of an editorial from the St. Petersburg, Fla. "Times," issue of November 14, 1959.

4. An editorial from the "Detroit News," dated May 30, 1958, captioned "The Commentator," by W.K. KEISEY and reprinted by the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, New York City.
5. The April 5, 1959, issue of "The Catholic Worker," containing an article on page 2 captioned "Time, Conscience and the Sobell Case."

CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

CPEPD

PHT-15 advised on November 19, 1959, that THOMAS NABRIED was invited to a PSC affair scheduled to be held in Philadelphia on December 10, 1959, by a member of the PC of the PSC. According to this informant, the affair would feature HELEN SOBELL as the guest speaker. It was hoped that NABRIED would attend this affair and possibly bring others with him as well as collect "a few dollars" for the defense of MORTON SOBELL.

PHT-15 advised on November 19, 1959, that THOMAS NABRIED as of that date was Chairman of the CPEPD.

On November 29, 1959, PHT-16 reported that THOMAS NABRIED recently met with a CPUSA official from New York City. The MORTON SOBELL case was discussed and NABRIED wondered why the CP had not taken more action in this matter. Informant stated that the individual from New York City thought the CP could make another "SACCO VANZETTI" out of the SOBELL case by "whipping up hysteria." NABRIED remarked that in Philadelphia there was quite a bit of activity around the SOBELL case but the CP was standing aloof from this activity and had not taken a forthright political position in the matter. NABRIED stated he thought the CP should take a position.

PHT-16 advised on December 30, 1959, that the District Committee, CPEPD, was interested in setting up

a civil rights committee to handle a variety of civil rights matters. THOMAS NABRIED told the informant earlier in December 1959 that he did not believe civil rights work could be handled by the PSC because of the nature of the Committee itself and because JEAN FRANTJIS no longer held the real post of responsibility in the PSC.

PHT-17 advised on April 22, 1960, a "forum" was sponsored by the West Philadelphia Section, CPEPD, at the residence of JEAN FRANTJIS, 249 South Melville Street, on April 21, 1960. Approximately 30 persons attended this forum. JEAN FRANTJIS served as Chairman and at the conclusion of the affair, announced that the PSC would sponsor a meeting on April 22, 1960, at the Central YMCA in Philadelphia. She urged her listeners to attend this meeting.

On May 6, 1960, PHT-17 reported that the CPEPD sponsored a May Day celebration at the Broadwood Hotel on Sunday, May 1, 1960. Approximately 175 persons attended and the principal speaker was JAMES E. JACKSON, Editor of "The Worker," from New York City. Toward the end of this affair, JEAN FRANTJIS read a resolution asking clemency on behalf of MORTON SOBELL. PHT-17 advised that this resolution was approved and it was announced that it would be forwarded to President EISENHOWER for his consideration.

"The Worker" is a weekly East Coast Communist publication.

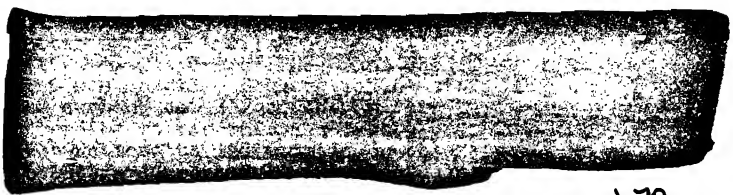
PHT-12 advised on May 3, 1960, and PHT-18 advised on May 12, 1960, that the CPEPD sponsored a May Day celebration at the Broadwood Hotel on May 1, 1960. These informants attended and both furnished substantially the same information regarding this affair as PHT-17.

Philadelphia Social Science
Forum Committee (PSSFC)

The PSSFC is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

PH 100-37667

On December 16, 1959, PHT-1 advised that the PSSFC sponsored an affair at the Adelphia Hotel on December 11, 1959. About 50 persons attended this affair. Informant stated HELEN SOBELL was introduced at this affair and spoke briefly regarding her work on behalf of her husband, MORTON SOBELL. She solicited the aid of those in attendance.



b7D

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case'"

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications"
dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee
on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 210 Broadway, New York, New York.

JEWISH PROGRAM SERVICE COMMITTEE,
formerly the Jewish Publication and
Cultural Committee, Jewish Publication
and Research Committee (and affiliated
clubs and societies), known locally as
Philadelphia Jewish Cultural Clubs;
Jewish Cultural Clubs of Philadelphia

A source on 7/30/57, advised as follows:

The Philadelphia Jewish Cultural Clubs (PJCC), aka Jewish Cultural Clubs of Philadelphia, were formed in the spring months of 1954. Actually, the basis for the formation of the PJCC was laid in the fall months of 1953 when it appeared certain that the International Workers Order (IWO) would be dissolved pursuant to an order of liquidation by the New York state courts.

SOL ROTENBERG, former Executive Director, Philadelphia Jewish People's Fraternal Order (JFPO), IWO, in late 1953 laid the groundwork for the formation of the PJCC, using as a nucleus former JFPO, IWO members. In early 1954, he provided leadership in the establishment of the PJCC and also set up the Coordinating Committee, PJCC, composed of delegates from the Culture Clubs of the PJCC. The purpose of this committee was to provide leadership, long-range planning and coordination of the activities of the various culture clubs.

A second source on 6/21/54, advised that SOL ROTENBERG was a member of the Philadelphia City Committee, CFEFD, as of June 1954. On 4/1/57, this source advised that as of March 1957, ROTENBERG was a member of the District Committee, CFEFD.

A third source advised on 5/27/60, that the PJCC continues to be active in Philadelphia with the Sholem Aleichem Club being the largest, most active and aggressive in the PJCC with a membership of more than 125 people. The source further advised that the following cultural clubs are also active in Philadelphia, but do not have the large membership of the Sholem Aleichem Club:

PH

PH

Wynnefield Jewish Culture Club
Uptown Mutual Aid Society
North East Culture Club

The Strawberry Mansion Culture Club is presently inactive.

The IWO and the Jewish People's Fraternal Order have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

PH

LOWER BUCKS COUNTY COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

[REDACTED] a source advised that AARON KATZ of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in New York City, had recently contacted certain individuals in the Levittown, Pa., area concerning some activity on behalf of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in that area. b7D

[REDACTED] Lower Bucks County Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, [REDACTED] the Levittown, Pa. area. b7D

On 5/24/60, this source advised that this group continues to exist in the Levittown, Pa. area but had not engaged in any activity since 12/10/59.

On 12/4/58, another source advised that ELSA SACCO (now Mrs. ELSA SUPLEE) was, as of this date, a member of the CREPD.

On 4/8/59, this source advised that GERTRUDE KINCES was then a member of the CREPD.

Another source advised that FRANK KINCES was elected to the membership of the District Committee, CREPD, on 1/31/60.

PHILADELPHIA SOBELL COMMITTEE b7D

On 1/23/53, [REDACTED] Commissioner of Police THOMAS J. GIBBONS, Philadelphia Police Department, advised that by letter dated 10/10/52, the Philadelphia Police Department had received notification of a meeting under the sponsorship of the Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to be held in Philadelphia on 10/14/52.

On 4/14/53, the [REDACTED] Division of Solicitations, Department of Public Instructions, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 812 Blackstone Building, Harrisburg, Pa., advised that by letter dated 2/17/53, JEAN D. FRANTZIS, as Executive Secretary of the Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa., had advised the Division of Solicitations that the Philadelphia Committee was an affiliate of the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, and that the purpose of the local committee was to solicit money to be used to meet expenses in carrying on appeals in the Rosenberg Case and maintaining the Rosenberg children. b7D

Literature issued by the Committee on the dates indicated reflects the following variations of the names of the Philadelphia Committee which have been utilized:

- 2/11/53 Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 10/14/53 Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg-Sobell Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 10/19/53 Philadelphia Rosenberg-Sobell Committee, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 7/8/54 Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.

PH

On 3/14/56, a source advised that the Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case was being disbanded because of a lack of funds and a lack of activity on the part of the Committee.

[REDACTED]

b7D

Another source advised on 5/29/60, that the Philadelphia Sobell Committee continues to operate as a local affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. It is a non-membership organization which conducts its activities through a Planning Committee consisting of no set number of people, usually eight to twelve individuals. PEARL CHERTOV is the Chairman of the Philadelphia Sobell Committee, and JEAN D. FRANCOIS takes a leading role in the Planning Committee activities.

A third source advised on 5/26/60, that as of that date PEARL CHERTOV was the Organizer of the Philadelphia Branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

[REDACTED]

b7D

FH

PHILADELPHIA SOCIAL SCIENCE FORUM
COMMITTEE (PSSFC)

[REDACTED]

A series of forums under the nominal sponsorship of the Philadelphia Social Science Forum Committee (PSSFC). The source stated the PSSFC was merely a paper organization, and this series of forums was organized by the District Education Commission (DEED). [REDACTED]

This source advised 6/12/59, that the PSSFC remained under the control of the District Education Commission, DEED. It was planned by RUBIN that a new series of forums would be conducted in the fall of 1959. b7D

The same source advised 11/5/59, that a new series of PSSFC forums would be held on the second Friday of each month, beginning 11/13/59, and running through May 1960, at the Adelphi Hotel, Philadelphia. [REDACTED] b7D

This source further advised on 5/24/60, that the final forum of the current series is scheduled for May 27, 1960. Interest has waned, and no plans exist at the present time for resumption of the forum series in the fall of 1960. The source reported that DANIEL RUBIN, who was largely responsible for the success of the PSSFC, in January 1960, was appointed National Youth Secretary, CPUSA, and no one has shown the same interest in promoting the PSSFC.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

100-37667

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

August 31, 1960

Title: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Reference: Report of SA [REDACTED] b7c
dated August 31, 1960, at
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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